

Clinton Angrily Assails Leak of His Testimony

President's Lawyers Demand FBI Inquiry As Tension With Starr's Team Heightens

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton, in one of his rare comments on the allegations swirling around him, on Thursday angrily denounced an apparently illegal leak of a detailed account of his deposition in the Paula Jones sexual misconduct suit.

"Somebody in this case ought to follow the law," Mr. Clinton said.

Mr. Clinton's private attorneys called the leak "reprehensible" and demanded an FBI investigation of its source.

As they spoke, there was an extraordinary flurry of activity at the federal courthouse here as Vernon Jordan Jr., a close Clinton friend, appeared for a second day of questioning; and William Ginsburg, an attorney for Monica Lewinsky, appeared before a federal judge, apparently to argue against Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, about an offer of immunity for his client.

The dispute over the deposition is the

latest in a series of increasingly acrimonious exchanges between Mr. Clinton's lawyers and the Starr team over vaguely sourced press leaks that appear either to have come from the closed grand jury investigation, from sources close to it, or possibly from White House advocates seeking to deflate sensational charges through preemptive leaks.

Mr. Clinton's five-hour deposition in the Jones case had been held under court seal.

The Washington Post, giving no indication of its source, published an extensive account of the session in its Thursday edition, providing not only the substance of what was said but also descriptions of Mr. Clinton's demeanor that seemingly could come only from a person at the session or from a recording of it. (Page 3).

The Associated Press and CNN quoted unnamed sources as confirming the accuracy of the Post's report.

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Bus-Bomb Blast Kills 32 in Colombo's Business District

Police and rescue workers gathered at the site in Colombo's commercial area of Maradana on Thursday where a bomb explosion killed at least 32 people and wounded hundreds. The remains of the bus in which two bombs had been placed can be seen at center-right. The blasts were attributed to Tamil Tiger guerrillas. Page 4.

Yugoslavia Opens Offensive Against Albanian Rebels In Kosovo Region

Defying Calls for Restraint, Milosevic Appears Determined To Smash Separatist Movement

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Serbian security forces Thursday opened the Yugoslav government's largest counterinsurgency operation so far in the fight against separatist rebels in Kosovo Province. Troops cordoned off scores of villages and forced the evacuation of dozens of Serbian families, along with women and children from the ethnic Albanian community.

Serbian police officials said they began the attack in the Drenica region, 40 kilometers (25 miles) west of the provincial capital, Pristina, after a dawn ambush on a police station that left two policemen wounded. The

U.S. punishes Belgrade over crackdown: Page 6.

Organized Crime Strangles Slovakia

Extortion and Protection Rackets Grow Into a Threat to Business

By Peter S. Green
International Herald Tribune

BANSKA BYSTRICA, Slovakia — When the mob came calling in August at his office in this provincial capital, Frantisek Mojzis had a good idea what it was after: his business.

But Mr. Mojzis refused to sign over the title to his company, or hire a mob-controlled security service to "protect" his business. Nor did Mr. Mojzis ask Slovakia's marginally effective police force for help when the mob sent played tough with him, cajoling and finally "offering" to take him on a short car ride, Mr. Mojzis recalled recently.

Instead, Mr. Mojzis did what many people do when they find themselves in a period of great trouble. He turned to God.

Rather than take in a mob front man as a silent partner, he decided to try to save his eight-year-old company, Drukos, s.r.o., by signing over ownership to the Roman Catholic Church. The diocese's Society to Aid the Poor and Sick now owns Mr. Mojzis's 5.2 billion koruny (\$150 million)-a-year empire, leasing cars and business machines and building prefabricated homes, while turning some of the profits over to the poor.

"A man's belief shouldn't just express itself in words, but in his deeds as well," Mr. Mojzis said as he nervously smoked a cigarette in his heavily guarded office. He said he was inspired by the example of Banská Bystrica's bishop, the Reverend Rudolf Balaz, a vocal opponent of the heavy-handed rule of Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar.

The demise of communism in 1989 opened the doors for savvy, energetic entrepreneurs like Mr. Mojzis to cash in on the potential for rapid economic growth in Eastern Europe as it embraced capitalism. But through those same doors walked organized crime gangs, and nowhere in Central Europe have those resourceful toughs been more brazen or apparently more politically well-connected than in Slovakia, according to a range of experts, including diplomats, police officers, investigative

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Scott Ritter heads a team of about 50 UN inspectors.

Moon Survey Finds Evidence of Water

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Small, scattered pockets of water ice have been found beneath the lunar surface by a robot survey spacecraft that has spent the last month mapping the moon.

NASA officials said the usefulness of the water was not immediately clear, because the data from the spacecraft Lunar Prospector show it is scattered in small deposits across thousands of square miles of the lunar poles.

While the evidence of water ice is quite strong, the water signal detected by the spacecraft's instruments is relatively weak, said William Feldman, a Department of Energy researcher participating in the project.

Finding water ice on the moon bolsters tentative plans to establish a permanent lunar base. If water could be mined on the moon, it would ease the need of sending a supply from Earth.

Saddam's Nemesis Back for Inspection

But Ritter, Earlier Barred as 'Spy,' May Not Visit Presidential Sites

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BAGHDAD — The United Nations weapons inspector Scott Ritter, branded a spy by Iraq, returned to Baghdad on Thursday on a mission that could prove to be an early test of Iraq's pledge to comply with the inspection regime.

Iraq's cooperation with Mr. Ritter, an American who was barred in January from working, may show how far it is ready to carry out a pledge made 10 days ago to give unrestricted access to the inspectors, who believe it is still concealing banned weapons.

Iraq made the commitment in an accord signed by the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz, which defused a crisis over access to eight so-called presidential sites.

Mr. Ritter flew to Habbaniya military airport outside the capital at the head of a team of about 50 inspectors and then traveled by bus to the UN headquarters in Baghdad.

Iraq's official press agency briefly mentioned his arrival in a report on visits carried out Thursday by inspectors of the UN Special Commission, or Unscm, who have continued their work throughout the recent crisis.

In a sign that Iraq was playing down the significance of Mr. Ritter's visit, photographers and television crews were asked not to cover his arrival.

In January, Iraq blocked inspections by Mr. Ritter's team, alleging that he was a spy and that his team was weighted with Americans and Britons.

The move sparked a standoff with the United Nations, and the two sides sparred for weeks over access by UN weapons teams to "sensitive sites," including dozens of President Saddam Hussein's palaces. The United States threatened to attack if Iraq did not allow inspectors access to the sites, while Baghdad said such inspections would violate its sovereignty.

Iraq has pledged that it will comply fully with the deal it signed with Mr. Annan, under which it also promised un-

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China Slates \$1 Trillion To Safeguard Its Boom

Fighting the Asian Crisis With Public Works

By Seth Faison
New York Times Service

BEIJING — The leaders of China have devised a plan to spend \$1 trillion on infrastructure projects in the next three years, an ambitious effort to stop the Asian financial crisis from derailing China's economic growth and the political stability that has come with it.

A stimulus package on a stunningly large scale, the plan is intended to counter ill effects from the fall of Chinese exports and foreign investment, once twin engines of a go-go economy. Both are expected to drop sharply this year. Delegates at the opening session of the National People's Congress, an annual meeting of China's legislature, said Thursday the spending plan would be unveiled in the coming days.

Leaders in Beijing have watched with mounting alarm in recent months as one Asian country after another fell into financial crisis. Aware that their own banking and industrial troubles were at least as

serious as in other Asian nations, China's leaders saw the need for a drastic step, and the one they chose is the largest spending plan in the nation's history.

Huang Qifan, deputy secretary-general of the Communist Party in Shanghai, said in an interview that the leadership had decided a full \$1 trillion was needed to keep China's growth rate at 8 percent, a level that many economists say is needed to avert massive unemployment.

The spending plan, Mr. Huang said, will pay for the building of roads, bridges, power plants, sewage treatment plants, water conservation plants and for agricultural projects.

The money will come from eight principal sources, he said, including foreign borrowing, government loans, direct allocations and various forms of public investment. Some of the funding was already in the works as part of

See CHINA, Page 6



Chinese leaders standing for the national anthem Thursday at the opening session of the National People's Congress.

The Dollar		
New York	Thursday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.8348	1.8185
Pound	1.6385	1.6467
Yen	127.745	128.67
FF	6.15	6.102

The Dow		
	Thursday close	previous close
-84.16	8445.08	8539.24

S&P 500		
change	Thursday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
-72.26	1035.07	1047.33

AGENDA

United Places \$1.4 Billion Airbus Order

United Airlines has ordered 30 narrow-body aircraft from Airbus Industrie, the European consortium, in a deal valued at about \$1.4 billion.

The airline said it had ordered 20 A320s and 10 A319s. The Airbus A320 costs from \$46 million to \$49 million, and the A319 costs \$41 million to \$46 million.

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Sports..... Pages 20-21.

The Internet..... Pages 4, 5.
The IHT on-line: www.ihl.com

Advertisers Find a Formula They Like in Auto Racing

By Tom Buurkle
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — They are sleek and fast. They travel the globe from Melbourne to Monte Carlo, surrounded by models and princes, actors and corporate moguls, and watched by some 460 million avid television spectators. And there are only 22 in each race.

They are Formula One racing cars. And in this high-tech, high-speed age, they are fast becoming a dream vehicle for the advertising world.

As Michael Schumacher, Jacques Villeneuve and other drivers gear up for the season-opening Aus-

tralian Grand Prix this Sunday, the traditional cigarette and motor-oil logos are increasingly sharing space on racing-car bodies with logos from banking giants like HSBC Holdings PLC, high-technology companies like Hewlett-Packard and Alcatel Alsthom, and even Hollywood's Universal Studios.

The surge in sponsorship attests to the growing appeal of one of the world's most popular annual sporting events. It also provides optimism for the future of a sport that is facing a European ban on tobacco advertising in eight years' time, and tough new scrutiny by antitrust regulators into its costly ties with broadcasters and race-track operators.

HSBC, the London-based parent of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp., is paying \$25 million (\$41 million) to sponsor Jackie Stewart's Formula One team for five years. The bank hopes to share in the sport's self-styled image as being modern, technology-driven and successful at risk management.

"We were looking for ways to project the name of the HSBC group globally, and quickly," said Mary Jo Jacobi, the group's head of public affairs. "After the World Cup and the quadrennial Olympic Games, it is the biggest global sport." Formula One is broadcast to

See FORMULA ONE, Page 12

Evasions Mark Suharto's Steps To Carry Out IMF Reforms

By Seth Mydans
New York Times Service

JAKARTA — As a decision nears over whether to infuse billions of dollars in international aid to Indonesia, a close look at the performance of President Suharto shows a pattern of evasions and half-measures on the economic reforms he agreed to six weeks ago.

From cars to clothes to banks to plywood, the painful austerity measures Mr. Suharto promised in return for the aid made brief appearances here. But many have disappeared again in a haze of missed deadlines, quick name changes and fiscal shuffling, according to Indonesian and foreign businessmen and economists.

Tax breaks for a "national car" were removed, only to reappear in a new form. Carrels controlled by Mr. Suharto's close friends in clothes and plywood seem to have been dismantled, only to rise again, the experts said.

Banking reform, probably the most critical step in regaining financial stability, appears to have been slowed by the financial interests of the country's elite. The removal of subsidies for basic commodities has been announced several times, only to be delayed as food riots have flared around the country.

Officials of both the United States and the International Monetary Fund warn that unless quick action is taken on these and other reforms, a \$40 billion rescue package could be suspended later this

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Newstand Prices		
Andorra	10.00 FF	Lebanon \$1.3000
Armenia	12.50 FF	Morocco 16 Dh
Cameroon	1.800 CFA	Catala 10.00 CFA
Egypt	2E 550	Madagascar 12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia 10 SR
Ghana	1.100 CFA	Senegal 1.100 CFA
Italy	2.200 Lire	Spain 225 Ptas
Ivory Coast	1.250 CFA	Tunisia 1.250 Din
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.A.E. 10.00 Dh
Kuwait	700 Fils	U.S. Mil. (Eur.) \$1.20



THE AMERICAS

A Glimpse at Clinton's Deposition in the Jones Case

By Peter Baker
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The most detailed account to date of President Bill Clinton's sealed deposition in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case shows that Mr. Clinton acknowledged he had talked with his close friend and adviser Vernon Jordan Jr. about his efforts to find a new job for Monica Lewinsky, but that it was his personal secretary who initiated the career help for the former White House intern.

During Mr. Clinton's five-hour deposition on Jan. 17, the president testified that he saw Ms. Lewinsky at the White House on perhaps five occasions and that they may have been alone together. But the president denied ever having had sexual relations with Ms. Lewinsky, according to the account of the deposition.

For the purposes of the deposition, Mrs. Jones's lawyers produced a written definition of sexual relations that encompassed such acts as fondling and oral sex but not kissing on the mouth — a definition that leaves Mr. Clinton little room to offer a revised explanation of his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky.

In recent weeks, some advisers have suggested possible scenarios in which the president might admit to intimate contact short of the oral sex Ms. Lewinsky reportedly has claimed occurred, but any contradiction with his testimony in the deposition now risks a perjury charge.

In the deposition, Mr. Clinton acknowledged that he once mentioned the Jones case to Ms. Lewinsky, telling her that many women who knew him were being summoned to testify and that she might be among them. But he testified that that was the extent of the conversation. Mr. Clinton said he was not sure whether he knew at that time that Ms. Lewinsky had been subpoenaed.

Mr. Clinton said he was aware that his personal secretary, Betty Currie, had arranged for Ms. Lewinsky to be interviewed for a job by the American ambassador to the United Nations, Bill Richardson — a meeting that took place in October — and that Mrs. Currie later contacted Mr. Jordan for help with job prospects in the private sector. While that was not done at his suggestion, he said, he believed it was proper.

Although the president offered few specifics, he said Mr. Jordan told him that he had been talking with Ms. Lewinsky about jobs, and that he had indicated his support.

It was secret tape recordings of Ms. Lewinsky's discussion of a sexual relationship with Mr. Clinton — and her assertion in those ostensibly private conversations with a friend

In the sealed deposition, Mr. Clinton offered no explanation for his frequent contacts with Ms. Lewinsky or why he was kept informed about a former low-level aide's job search.

that the president had urged her to lie about it — that sparked the investigation by the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr is now trying to determine whether the president suborned perjury or attempted to obstruct justice.

Mr. Starr has obtained a copy of Mr. Clinton's deposition through the Little Rock court where the Jones case is scheduled to go to trial on May 27.

Mr. Clinton's legal team in the Jones matter was informed on Dec. 5 that Ms. Lewinsky was a potential witness. So the president's interactions with her and Mr. Jordan after that point are key to Mr. Starr's investigation.

For Mr. Clinton, the deposition was an excruciating look into his intimate past.

Mrs. Jones's lawyers, those who are familiar with the deposition said, tried to question him not only about Mrs. Jones and Ms. Lewinsky, but also about five other women. The president's mood seemed generally sober, but as the hours wore on there were moments of pique as well, this account goes.

His voice was so low at times that he was asked repeatedly to speak up. At a couple of points, Mr. Clinton seemed agitated, once complaining about conservative attacks on him and later seeming to dare the Jones lawyers to throw any question at him that they could come up with.

While Mrs. Jones was the plaintiff, much of the interrogation by her lawyers actually centered on Ms. Lewinsky. Mr. Clinton acknowledged exchanging gifts with the young woman — she gave him a tie and at least one book, he recalled, while he gave her souvenirs from Martha's Vineyard and did not dispute that he may also have given her a hat pin, a gold brooch and a book of Walt Whitman poetry.



William Ginsburg, left, Monica Lewinsky's attorney, arriving Thursday at federal court in Washington to pursue his petition that the independent counsel's subpoena of his client be thrown out. His co-counsel, Nathaniel Speights, was with him.

In addition to denying a sexual relationship with Ms. Lewinsky, Mr. Clinton repeated his denial that he asked Mrs. Jones for oral sex in a Little Rock hotel suite in 1991. He also denied having had any sexual contact with three of the other women he was asked about.

U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright, who was present for the deposition, ruled that he did not have to answer questions about a fourth woman, because she had no state or federal employment.

But Mr. Clinton acknowledged for the first time that he did have sexual relations with Jennifer Flowers, saying it occurred just one time in 1977.

The president has offered no explanation for his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky beyond emphatic denials that they engaged in sex.

In the sealed deposition, Mr. Clinton offered no explanation for his frequent contacts with Ms. Lewinsky or why he was kept informed about a former low-level aide's job search. Nor was he asked by Mrs. Jones's lawyers to do so.

Mr. Jordan has said that he embarked on a job search for Ms. Lewinsky after being asked to do so by Mrs. Currie. He has told associates that he assumed the request had come from the president. Those associates said Mr. Jordan has said he was not aware when he first intervened to help Ms. Lewinsky that she was involved in the Jones case, even though Mrs. Currie's call asking for his help came three days after Mr. Clinton's lawyers were told she might testify.

Later, Mr. Jordan told the associates, both Ms. Lewinsky and Mr. Clinton assured him that they had no sexual relationship.

To those in the room where the questioning took place for the Jones deposition, Mr. Clinton appeared to keep his composure and answered in measured terms.

In response to many of the particular questions, his language was imprecise. He said he did not recall certain events or know for sure if he had done some things he was asked about, although he often allowed that it was possible.

But when the allegations regarding sex were raised, Mr. Clinton answered in firm, declarative sentences or unequivocal one-word answers like "no."

Rather than asking the president direct, perhaps uncomfortable, questions about specific sex acts, Mrs. Jones's lawyers produced at the outset the written description of what they meant whenever they asked about sexual relations.

Under that definition, sexual relations meant any contact with someone's groin, buttocks, breast or inner thigh if intended to stimulate sexual arousal. No specific mention was made of kissing lips.

Unbeknownst to Mr. Clinton or his lawyers, Mrs. Jones's legal team had brought a secret weapon — full briefings from Linda

prime evidence of a pattern of behavior by Mr. Clinton.

In some ways, Mr. Clinton's sworn answers to questions about his ties with Ms. Lewinsky conflict with information that has been reported since the deposition. Most notably, he gave Mrs. Jones's lawyers a significantly different account of his last meeting with the intern.

During the deposition, he said he saw her briefly just before Christmas when she stopped by to visit Mrs. Currie and he stuck his head out of the Oval Office to say hello.

But White House entry logs that have been turned over to Mr. Starr's office showed that Ms. Lewinsky visited the White House the Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 28. Sources familiar with the session have said she met with Mr. Clinton, and the sources said they were not aware of anyone present besides the two of them.

The president said in the deposition that he had nothing to do with Ms. Lewinsky's being given a paid clerk's position in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs on Nov. 26, 1995.

After she left for a Pentagon job in April 1996, Ms. Lewinsky sent more than a half-dozen packages by courier to Mrs. Currie at the White House. At least some of the messages were intended for Mr. Clinton, the president acknowledged, although he characterized them as holiday cards or notes about how to recruit young people to work on White House activities.

Many people send things to him through Mrs. Currie, Mr. Clinton said, because there is a better chance they will actually reach him and not be lost in the piles of unsolicited mail that swamp the White House.

Under the rules of discovery, Mrs. Jones's lawyers were granted latitude to ask about other women, and they walked Mr. Clinton through a list of women who rumor had it he had been involved with.

Mr. Clinton said he remembered meeting with Kathleen Willey, a White House volunteer, on Nov. 29, 1993, when she came to him seeking a full-time job because of family financial problems. Mrs. Willey was so emotional that the encounter stood out, Mr. Clinton said, but he denied her account of an unsolicited sexual advance.

In her own deposition, sources who know of it have said, Mrs. Willey testified that Mr. Clinton took her into the hallway between the Oval Office and his private pantry, kissed her, put his hand on her breast, put her hand on his crotch and said, "I wanted to do that for a long time."

Mr. Clinton disputed the account, saying he embraced her and may have kissed her on the forehead in an attempt to comfort her because of her obvious anguish.

POLITICAL NOTES

FBI Holds Fund-Raising Suspect

WASHINGTON — Yogesh Gandhi, suspected of illegally funneling \$325,000 in foreign contributions to the Democratic Party, was arrested by the FBI on unrelated fraud charges as he prepared to fly home to India, the Justice Department announced Thursday. Mr. Gandhi was taken into custody without incident Wednesday at his home in Walnut Creek, California.

It was also learned that the department's campaign finance task force planned to file unspecified charges later Thursday against another Democratic fund-raiser, Johnny Chung. Mr. Chung and his attorney have been engaged in plea bargaining with prosecutors and there were indications they had reached an agreement.

Mr. Chung, a California businessman, alleges that in 1995 he was solicited for money by a White House staffer, delivered a \$50,000 check to Hillary Rodham Clinton's office and then was allowed to bring a group of Chinese business people to the White House to watch President Bill Clinton deliver his weekly radio address.

Mr. Gandhi was to be brought before a U.S. magistrate in San Francisco on Thursday on a mail fraud charge. He is accused of obtaining corporate American Express cards for himself and his wife, Kristi Marshall, in 1995 by forging a co-worker's name on the application. In essence, the task force seized on the unrelated fraud case to prevent Mr. Gandhi from leaving the country. (AP)

New Salvo Is Leveled at Starr

WASHINGTON — A week after Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel investigating President Bill Clinton, ordered a White House official to the grand jury to account for negative accusations spread about prosecutors, the president's aides have circulated a new batch of material critical of Mr. Starr's performance as a lawyer for General Motors Corp.

The material summarized a complaint filed Monday by a South Carolina plaintiff's lawyer that asks the Justice Department to investigate Mr. Starr for obstruction of justice.

The complaint, by J. Kendall Few, asserts that Mr. Starr sought to cover up perjurious testimony in a civil lawsuit in which Mr. Few's clients had been injured in a car accident. Mr. Few said Mr. Starr misused the lawyer-client privilege in an appeals court argument to conceal false testimony given by an engineer for General Motors during previous trials over the combustibility of fuel tanks.

Justice Department officials said Wednesday that they would read Mr. Few's complaint before deciding whether it merited a more formal review. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Senator Paul Coverdell, Republican of Georgia and co-sponsor of a resolution to overturn President Clinton's certification of Mexico as cooperating fully in efforts to curb drug trafficking: "By almost any objective standard, Mexico has clearly failed to satisfy the legal criteria required for certification." (WP)

Away From Politics

• Evenflo Co. is recalling 800,000 of its "On My Way" child carrier-car seats because of a faulty handle that can lead to a baby's being dumped out. When the seat is used as a carrier outside a car, the locking mechanism on the handle can slip, allowing the seat to slip forward and tossing the baby out. (AP)

• The first woman to pilot a space shuttle, Eileen Collins, will also be the first woman to lead a U.S. space mission. At a White House ceremony, Ms. Collins was promoted to space shuttle commander, a landmark in the 37 years of the U.S. space program. (AP)

• Seven people were hospitalized after a commercial jet hit turbulence over Nevada. Alaska Airlines Flight 684 with 100 people aboard was heading from Seattle to Las Vegas when the 737 hit rough weather near Reno, where it was diverted for an emergency landing. (AP)



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LE POINT, MICHEL PASCAL

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TIME MAGAZINE, RICHARD CORLISS

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GERMANY, NOW PLAYING - FRANCE, NOW PLAYING - SPAIN, NOW PLAYING - GREAT BRITAIN, MARCH 13

INTERNATIONAL

CIA Is Training Palestinian Forces

Dual Goal: Hunt Terrorists and Bolster Israel's View of Counterparts

By Tim Weiner
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Central Intelligence Agency has been training the security forces of the Palestinian Authority in the arts of espionage, information-gathering, interrogation and other techniques of the trade, U.S. government officials say.

With Israel's knowledge, the CIA's counterterrorism and covert-operations officers have been instructing senior and mid-level Palestinian security officials in the United States since mid-1996, the officials said. FBI agents who work at the CIA's Counterterrorism Center have also helped train the Palestinians.

The program has two aims, the officials said. The first is to increase the Palestinian security forces' professionalism and improve their ability to identify and arrest suspected terrorists, a task in which the officials said the CIA has succeeded in part. The second is to increase the Israeli government's confidence in the Palestinians, a political goal that has proven more elusive.

The CIA instructs its trainees in nonviolent interrogation techniques; its lessons prohibit torture. But the Palestinian security services have "commonly tortured" detainees, killing many of the 14 people who have died in their custody in the last three years, according to a recent Human Rights Watch report.

The training takes place under a broader program of cooperation among the CIA, the Palestinian security services and the Israeli internal-security force known as Shin Bet.

The CIA station chief in Israel has been acting as a go-between and a referee under the agreement, which seeks to combat terrorism by such militant Islamic resistance groups as Hamas, and ultimately strengthen the badly frayed peace effort in the region.

The Palestinian security forces regularly arrest suspected members and sympathizers of Hamas, a group whose suicide bombers have killed scores of people in Israel to undermine efforts at coexistence between the Pal-

estinian Authority and the Jewish state. The CIA provides training and advice to the intelligence and security services of many nations besides the Palestinian Authority.

One of the agency's aims is to teach methods of interrogating suspects without torturing them. A 1963 CIA interrogation manual, recently declassified, discussed the use of physical torture as a last resort. Twenty years later, the agency was telling foreign intelligence services that physical torture was counterproductive, but it still instructed them in the uses of mental torture and coercion.

The agency now teaches only nonviolent methods of interrogation, which can include friendly persuasion, verbal trickery and psychological pressure, in accordance with its own codes of conduct.

These codes were revised in 1985 to exclude "the use of force, mental torture, threats, insults or exposure to unpleasant and inhumane treatment of any kind as an aid to interrogation."

Whether these milder techniques work on suspected terrorists — or whether the Palestinian security services have learned the CIA's lessons — is questionable.

Palestinian officials acknowledged in 1996 and 1997 that some members of the Palestinian security apparatus had abused suspects under arrest. It is unclear whether any of those Palestinian security officials had been trained by the CIA. For its part, Israel has acknowledged using what it calls "moderate physical pressure" on political suspects; human-rights groups call that pressure torture.

Curt Goering, deputy executive director of Amnesty International USA, said he had seen no improvement in the performance of the Palestinian security forces regarding human rights over the last two years.

No U.S. official would comment publicly on any aspect of the program, including Palestinian security services' human rights record.

The CIA's ties to the Pal-

estinian services have a 25-year history. In 1973, Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, sent an emissary to meet secretly with Vernon Walters, then the deputy director of central intelligence, to discuss how to "prevent radical assaults on the early peace process" between Arabs and Israelis, according to the memoirs of Henry Kissinger, the former secretary of state.

That Palestinian emissary was Ali Hassan Salem, who was on the most-wanted list of Israeli intelligence service for masterminding the murder of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

From 1973 through 1978, Mr. Salem, better known as Abu Hassan, provided the United States and its allies with tips about the assassination plots of radical Palestinian organizations and other Arab terrorist groups.

In those years, the CIA set up a network of contacts within Mr. Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization and various guerrilla groups in

Lebanon. Its leading Middle East expert, Robert Ames, and its officers in Beirut, reached an understanding with the PLO through contacts with Mr. Salem, under which the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon, which housed the Beirut station, was protected from harm.

In January 1979, Mr. Salem was killed by a booby-trapped Volkswagen parked in Beirut. The Israeli foreign intelligence service, the Mossad, is thought to have set the bomb. In April 1983, Mr. Ames and at least six other CIA officers were killed when Islamic militants blew up the U.S. Embassy in Beirut.

These killings damaged the agency's deepest connections with Palestinian organizations during the 1980s. Those connections and the insights they provided were difficult to recreate, retired agency officials said. The training program with the Palestinian security services may help reestablish them, other officials said.



HOME COMING — Relatives waving to prisoners released from Syrian jails as they crossed the Syria-Lebanon border at Masnaa on Thursday. Syria released 130 Lebanese prisoners, mostly Christians, many of whom had been detained in Syrian prisons since the 1975-90 civil war in Lebanon.

Israel Tries to Stifle U.S. Plan for Peace

Netanyahu Unhappy With Proposal

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has begun an intense campaign, deploying Israeli officials and lobbyists to prevent the Clinton administration from announcing a specific proposal for reviving peace talks with the Palestinians.

The Americans, in negotiations with both sides, have been refining their proposal for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank in parallel with Palestinian moves against terrorism. But the Israelis are unhappy with the size of the withdrawal suggested and with the reluctance of the Palestinians to move against radical groups.

The Israelis especially do not want the Americans to disclose their proposal before a compromise can be reached, saying public diplomacy will put unfair pressure on Mr. Netanyahu to accede on security issues.

Israeli officials, including the government's spokesman, David Bar-Ilan, are running around Washington seeing reporters, columnists and legislators like Senators Sam Brownback of Kansas and Jesse Helms of North Carolina, both Republicans.

And Mr. Netanyahu is enlisting American Jewish leaders to help stave off a plan that senior American officials swear is neither imminent nor inevitable. White House officials told Uzi Arad, Mr. Netanyahu's national security adviser, on Wednesday that there would be "no surprises" in the peace talks.

A senior administration official said later, "Public mediation usually fails." But he said that if the stagnation continues, there is a "logical progression" that would involve "getting them to accept our reasonable proposals."

That is best accomplished with private diplomacy, the official said, although the idea of a speech by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright or by President Bill Clinton laying out the proposal has been discussed.

Israeli officials said they were concerned that Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, was trying to block progress in order to push the Americans to intervene more forcefully.

Since Mr. Netanyahu knows Washington has made no decision to announce its proposal, some American officials say he is trying to limit the size of the American role itself by focusing his big guns now on a minor issue: a public announcement.

But those guns are blazing, and the White House has heard them.

On Monday night, at a dinner in Israel for the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, Mr. Netanyahu attacked the idea of American pressure on Israel. "Only the people of Israel can determine what their security needs are," he said, "and no third parties can impose what it should have as its security needs."

Howard Kohr, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, said: "We believe that a strategy of pressure will be counterproductive for the peace process, leading the Palestinians to look to the United States rather than Israel as their negotiating partner."

Not everyone agrees. Jonathan Jacoby, executive director of Israel Policy Forum, said: "This fear is unjustified. The administration is proposing, not imposing."

The outlines of the American proposal, which have in fact been leaked to news organizations, include an Israeli withdrawal from 13.1 percent of the West Bank areas that it controls, in return for parallel Palestinian acts to fight terrorism. At the end of the withdrawal, which would be in three stages over three months, both parties would begin talks on a permanent peace agreement, and Israel would agree to halt expansion of Jewish settlements.

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OPINION/LETTERS

As Murdoch Courts China, Conservatives Keep Mum

By Frank Rich

NEW YORK — Remember the biased "mainstream media" that would stop at nothing to protect the Clinton White House? Funny how you don't hear about that anymore. If there's one certain casualty of the Clinton era, it's the notion that the likes of Newsweek, The Washington Post, The New York Times and the big three television networks will suppress news out of loyalty to a supposed liberal comrade.

This was always a canard. It's conservative media that more often do bidding for their ideological own. The most unabashedly partisan figure among media magnates is hardly Katharine Graham or Michael Eisner — it's that naturalized American citizen, Rupert Murdoch.

Citizen Murdoch not only uses his empire to promote his allies and punish his enemies (from Bill Clinton to Ted Turner); he goes so far as to put politicians on the payroll. That brilliant author Newt Gingrich was offered a \$4.5 million payday from Murdoch's publishing house, HarperCollins, just as telecommunications matters financially crucial to the mogul's Fox properties were in play on Capitol Hill.

Last week it was revealed by the London newspaper The Daily Telegraph that Mr. Murdoch had again misused HarperCollins, this time in a manner that even his political allies might find offensive. Yet there has been mostly silence from conservative journalists about this scandal — even in American media properties that Mr. Murdoch doesn't own.

What Mr. Murdoch did was to see to it that HarperCollins canceled its scheduled publication in Britain of a memoir by Chris Patten, the last British governor of Hong Kong. The Telegraph uncovered a smoking in-house memo that revealed why: Mr. Patten's sin had been to criticize the government of China, whose favor Mr. Murdoch needs if he is to expand his TV and movie deals in the vast market it controls.

This is at least the fourth time that Mr. Murdoch has sold out the principles of an independent press to curry favor with China. He removed BBC World News from his satellite TV broadcasts to China after the Chinese complained of its coverage of dis-

sidents; he had HarperCollins publish a propagandistic biography of Deng Xiaoping by Mr. Deng's daughter while her father was still in power; he invested millions in a joint venture with The People's Daily, China's Communist Party paper.

Mr. Murdoch's latest outrage should horrify anyone who believes in human rights, particularly American conservatives who have spoken out about religious persecution in China. They would cheer Mr. Patten's book. In pages I've seen from the manuscript-in-progress — to be published in the United States this fall by Random House's Times Books imprint — he eloquently rebukes, unnamed Westerners who pursue the "crude and cynical strategy" of "tempering criticism of China's behavior at home or abroad in return for market access."

Mr. Patten further argues that the "sensible management of a developing economy" should have nothing to do with "torturing people, censoring what they can read or write, locking them up without due legal process, hunting opponents into silence or exile, dispersing crowds with bullets."

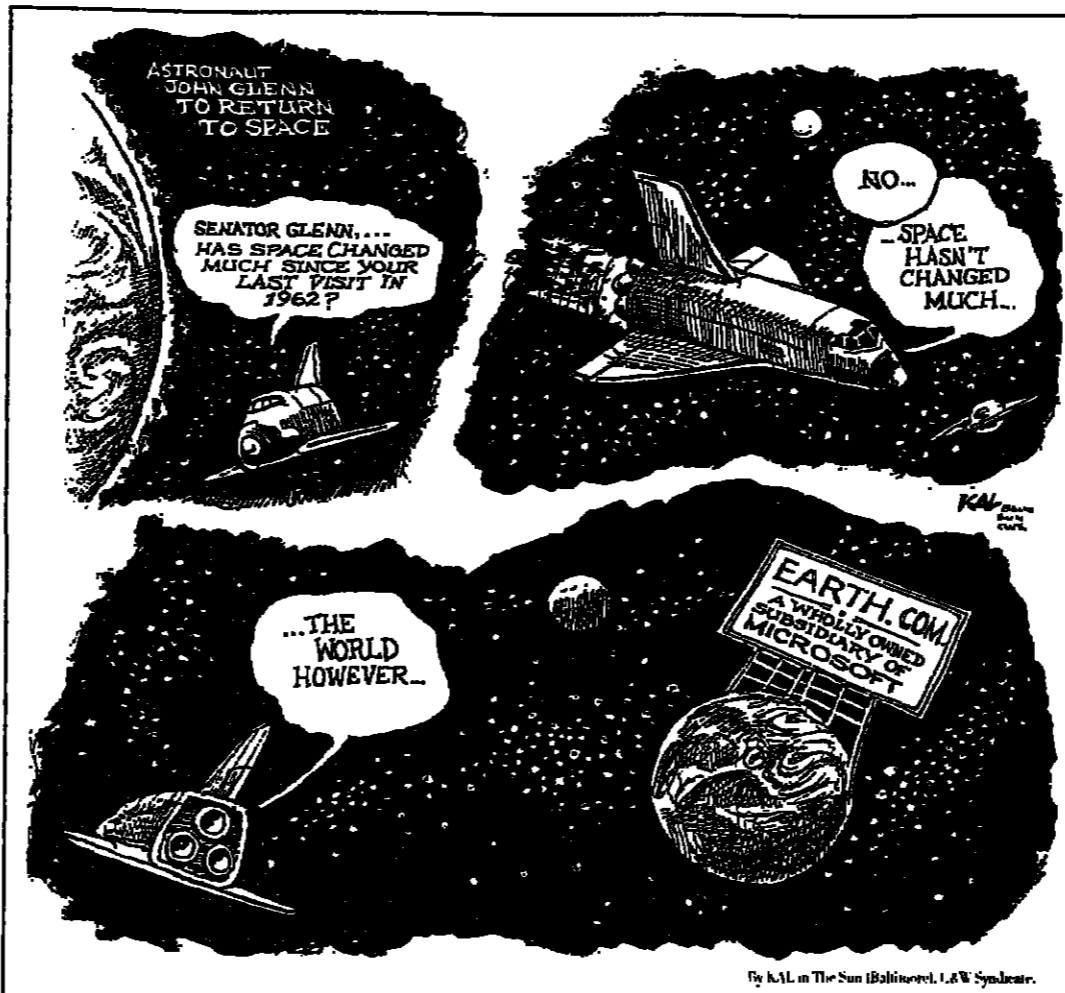
What does it tell us about Rupert Murdoch's journalistic priorities that he would kill Mr. Patten's book at the same moment his Fox News Channel (slogan: "News without bias") hires the cyber-gossip Mart Drudge?

In England, the journalist and historian Timothy Garton Ash has dumped HarperCollins as his publisher; the novelist Doris Lessing, another HarperCollins author, has declared Mr. Murdoch's editorial intervention so shocking she can't find words for it.

In America, let's see how much of this scandal even makes it into Murdoch publications like the New York Post and The Weekly Standard, let alone any prominent conservatives, whether HarperCollins authors like Robert Bork and Peggy Noonan or not, speak up in protest.

Will those who have accused the "mainstream media" of being in cahoots with a Democratic administration remain silent while their own media patron toadies to the most powerful totalitarian government in the world?

The New York Times



By KAL in The Sun (Baltimore), L.A.W. Syndicate

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clinton and Lewinsky

Regarding "Keep Law's Long Arm Out of the Bedroom" (Opinion, Feb. 25) by Anthony Lewis:

Certainly Mr. Lewis, a distinguished legal commentator, must recognize that the accusations arising from the Clinton-Lewinsky matter are not issues of sex in the bedroom. In most jurisdictions, the law has moved away from attempting to regulate the activities of consenting adults in the privacy of the bedroom.

The law does, however, govern sexual relationships in the workplace. Paula Jones has claimed that Bill Clinton used his position to negotiate a sexual relationship with her when she was a state employee. So her lawyers have the right to question Mr. Clinton about any sexual relationships in the workplace and to receive truthful answers. Or is Mr. Lewis suggesting that all defendants in a sex harassment suit be permitted to lie in their depositions?

It is unacceptable if Mr. Clinton has lied or attempted to influence others to lie in a federal lawsuit. If he has done so, Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, is justified in looking into whether there is a pattern of lying that has impeded the Whitewater investigation.

ROBERT EDWARDS,
Singapore

Three cheers for Anthony Lewis's article! When reporters have the cheek to ask President Clinton whether he has had a sexual relationship with a particular individual, he should simply say, "No comment."

Any such relationship is a matter only for Mr. Clinton and his wife.

JAMES E. WARRING,
Herrliberg, Switzerland

While I generally concur with Mr. Lewis's theme, I find it interesting that Americans seem to have no particular problem with the notion that the president of the

United States might have had an inappropriate relationship with a 21-year-old White House intern, but find it reprehensible that U.S. Army drill sergeants had relationships with trainees at the Aberdeen base in Maryland.

The applicable theory in the Aberdeen case was that a drill sergeant was in such a position of power that a relationship could not be deemed consensual. Is the power relationship between "the most powerful man in the world" and a young White House intern any different?

Indeed, the same public and news media that recently found General Joseph Ralston an unacceptable candidate for chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff because of an affair some 10 years earlier now appears ready to believe that the alleged misconduct by the commander in chief of those same armed forces has no bearing on his fitness for office.

T. C. JONES,
Kronberg, Germany

The Unbelievable Truth: Making It Believable

By Brett Kline

AUSCHWITZ, Poland — A girl leaned against a wall, convulsed with sobs. Two of her classmates hugged each other and cried.

A trip to Auschwitz is not like any other. The litany of horror and death began with the huge black and white photographs: the babies

you're standing in a marketplace with gasoline-soaked bodies everywhere, you feel the horror. It's not just the horror.

Perhaps, to believe and understand and visualize one people's horror, a person must live through his own.

Then the students walked in the Birkenau camp, on the frozen ground next to the railroad track leading to the selection ramp, under the red-brick archway in all the famous photos. No one was crying anymore. It was too cold.

One of the survivors showed the students how the prisoners had slept in the wooden barracks. He cracked jokes, explaining that a sense of humor was the only way he had of dealing with the memories. Will the students remember all this? he was asked. Even if this changes the lives of only a couple of students, this is worth it, he said.

He is right, and SOS Racism is right to bring students like these to Auschwitz. After this visit, will more of them follow the trial of Maurice Papon, the Vichy official accused of directing the deportations of more than 1,500 Jews to Auschwitz? Will the students pay more attention to the success of Mr. Le Pen?

I don't know, but education is the answer, education at any expense. Every high school student in the world should visit Auschwitz. Of course, this would cost a fortune, and would be a worthy global project for the United Nations and the World Bank. The profits would be incalculable.

SOS Racism had received requests from one of participating schools to include on this trip several youngsters from activist National Front families. Fearing violence, SOS Racism refused.

This was a mistake. Two or three National Front youngsters should have come along, so that the next time Jean-Marie Le Pen says that the gas chambers were just a minor detail in World War II, they could report back to their parents that he is wrong.

We have seen the horror, they would tell them. It would be worth the risk to tell the truth.

The writer, a journalist in Paris, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

BOOKS

SERIAL KILLERS: Death and Life in America's Wound Culture

By Mark Seltzer. 302 pages. Paperback. \$18.99. Routledge.

OF MEN AND MONSTERS: Jeffrey Dahmer and the Construction of the Serial Killer

By Richard Tithecott. 192 pages. \$24.95. Wisconsin.

Reviewed by Chris Bull

BESIDES the president and the Pope, one of the few people whom a majority of Americans can identify consistently in surveys is Jeffrey Dahmer, whose 17 sensational murders of men and boys made him a household name. Mark Seltzer and Richard Tithecott, the authors of illuminating new books that seek to make sense of the uniquely modern phenomenon of serial killers, contend that the public's dark obsession with Dahmer and other killers actually says more about the society in which we live than about the killers themselves. Dahmer, writes Tithecott in "Of Men and Monsters," has become the "archetypal figure of impurity, the representative of a world which needs cleansing."

For Seltzer, a professor of English at Cornell, the serial killer of the popular imagination is the product of the "machine culture," the relationship between graphic violence and the "technologies of registration, recording, and reproduction," which feeds the "wound culture," a public fascinated with murder and mayhem. Drawing with equal dexterity on sources ranging from the gay pulp novelist Dennis Cooper to the French philosopher Jacques Lacan, Seltzer sees the serial killer as a sort of performance artist around which we gather in an unhealthy attempt to exorcise our own demons.

In Seltzer's "Serial Killers," modern entertainment culture creates the conditions for the serial killer, not the other way around. The popular television drama "ER," for instance, is an "end-

less series of torn and opened bodies and an endless series of emotionally torn and exposed bio-technicians." This culture elevates private suffering to public spectacle, in which "serial killing finds its place." In one particularly insightful passage, Seltzer demonstrates the symbiotic relationship between former FBI "mindhunters" John Douglas and Robert Ressler and the crime novelist Thomas Harris, the author of "The Silence of the Lambs," who, according to Douglas, got the idea for the book while attending FBI seminars. "The distinctions between fact and fiction and between bodies and information vanish," Seltzer writes.

Seltzer traces the origin of serial killing to the ghastly turn-of-the-century case of H.H. Holmes, a wealthy "businessman" who constructed a 100-room "murder castle" in Chicago that allowed him to take life at will by injecting gas or fire into the rooms. Holmes, according to Seltzer, drew his inspiration from the city's new stockyards and slaughterhouses. Holmes profited from his killing by insuring his victims — mostly women — and then collecting on the policies.

Seltzer's indictment of the serial killer culture — marred occasionally by jargonistic, deconstructionist prose — is scathing. But by focusing so heavily on the culture at the expense of the individual, he risks obscuring the killer's personal responsibility for such reprehensible acts. For his part, Tithecott, also the co-editor of "My Secret Life: An Erotic Diary of Victorian London," is adept at shifting between postmodern and other equally magnifying lenses.

Drawing on the writings of the French philosopher Michel Foucault, Tithecott argues that Americans' fascination with serial killers can serve to "explain how and why our society is put together the way it is, to illustrate its preoccupations, anxieties, and fantasies." He explains that the prominence of serial killers like Dahmer can justify the "dominance of the police mentality" and contribute to a dangerous increase in the "powers of law enforcement — specifically, the

FBI." Passionately deconstructing the homophobic motive in much of the media's description of same-sex killers, he writes: "The representation of Dahmer connects the idea of savagery with that of homosexuality as a means of defining heterosexual culture against Jeffrey Dahmer, homosexual."

Tithecott takes aim at the unsettling disparity of attention between murderer and murdered. "In portraying the serial killer in superhuman terms while objectifying his victims, we construct our own dehumanizing, pornographic fantasy," he writes. "And when we judge the victims of violence as they tell their stories on television, when we identify the 'faults' in their behavior or their lifestyles which we perceive as leading to their victimization, we are part of the process of the victimization."

By focusing so intensely — and luridly — on serial killers and their culture, however, the authors risk contributing to the very preoccupation they condemn. Transfixed by the public's obsession with infamous killers, they may have created yet another outlet for it, albeit a sophisticated one. Though it would have required research that might have taken the authors beyond the scope of their inquiries, they might have said more about the hundreds of victims — and survivors — of serial killers whom they mention briefly, if at all.

Readers never even learn the names of most victims, let alone their stories, while killers like Dahmer and Ted Bundy are analyzed to within an inch of their lives. We may gain insight into modern society through its view of serial killers, yet we cannot understand and ultimately prevent serial killers without scrutinizing their victims. Looking at how the victims lived and died curbs the romanticization of killers and leads to an empathy for the horror they inflict on victims and on the communities from which they are drawn. If forensic psychology has yielded no other foolproof insight, it is that victims' profiles tend to reflect the perpetrator.

Washington Post Service

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THERE were opportunities for both sides on the diagrammed deal from the World Women's Team Championship last year. At both tables in a qualifying round match between Britain and one of the United States teams, three, no-trump was reached after East had made a pre-emptive opening.

After the diagrammed auction, the declarer was Nicola Smith of Britain, who has long been one of the world's best female players and has won two world titles. The

opening spade lead was ducked around to her king, and she made a good play by leading the heart jack and winning with dummy's king. She then ran the club 10, losing to the jack.

West for the United States was Irina Levitina, and she made a fine play by shifting to the diamond nine, but it was too late. This ran to the jack, and the defense was poised to score four diamond tricks.

But they had no opportunity. South cashed the heart queen, revealing the bad split, and took the marked finesse of the heart nine. She cashed the last heart in dummy and

led the club nine for a winning finesse to make an overtrick. In the replay the American declarer led the ace of clubs at the second trick. If she had guessed to follow with the queen she would have succeeded, but she led a low club next. The British West, Liz McGowan, won with the jack and made the same fine play of the diamond nine, losing to the jack.

Now her partner, Heather Dhondy, was able to win the next club lead and lead the diamond queen to pin down two for a British gain of 11 imps.

NORTH (D)
♦ Q J 4 2
♥ A K 9 5
♦ 10 6
♣ 10 9 2

WEST
♠ 10
♥ 10 7 6 4 2
♦ A 9 8 5 2
♣ J 8

EAST
♠ A 8 7 6 5
♥ Q
♦ Q 7 3
♣ K 7 3

SOUTH
♦ K 3
♥ Q J 3
♦ K J 4
♣ A Q 6 5 4

East and West were vulnerable
The bidding:
North East South West
Pass 2♦ 2 N.T. Pass
3♦ Pass 3♦ Pass
3 N.T. Pass Pass Pass

West led the spade 10.

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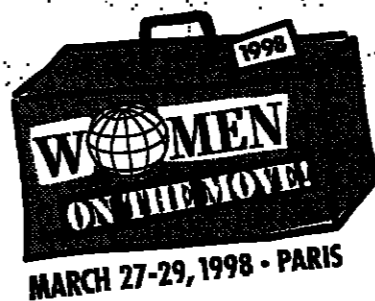
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Iron Fists Along Uzbekistan's Silk Road

Amid Beautiful Buildings, Memories of Ill-Tempered Tyrants

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

BUKHARA, Uzbekistan—Fifteen days in Uzbekistan! It is a prospect to delight the heart of any adventurous traveler. Here is an ancient Central Asian land of teeming bazaars and spectacular architecture, comprising domains once ruled by Alexander, Genghis Khan and Tamerlane. Last October I traveled overland to nearly every part of the country, and like every traveler I found some images especially vivid.

One of them was the Bug Pit, a way station of history where a particularly gruesome episode in the vast geopolitical struggle known as the Great Game was played out.

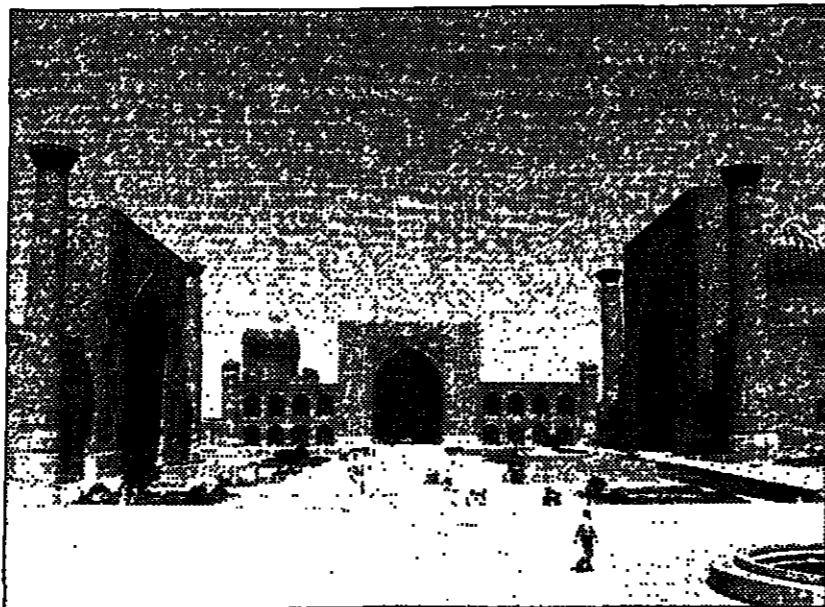
Bukhara, where the Bug Pit lies, was once the center of a powerful khanate, and visitors may still see many of the buildings where the emirs and nobles lived, ruled, worshiped and are buried. The main fortress, the Ark, was heavily damaged by fire in 1920 as Bolsheviks were wresting control of Bukhara from the last emir, and what stands today is an imposing but still ersatz version. The square in front of it, once the site of an infamous slave market, is now quiet and well kept.

In Bukhara, as in Samarkand and Khiva, the two other ancient cities of Uzbekistan, most of the great sights are within a compact area and best seen on foot. I stood in awe before the Ismael Samani mausoleum, a 1,000-year-old edifice built in an almost perfect cube measuring 35 feet on each side. Its exterior is an intricate pattern of delicate masonry that resembles the weaving on a fine basket. The dome, built to symbolize the heavens, complements the cubic form that represents the earth and also the Kaaba, the rectangular sacred stone of Mecca.

TILES AND CRUELTY

The majesty of this mausoleum, the colorful tiles that cover the facades of the Modar-i-Khan madrasah and the Abdullah Khan madrasah opposite, both religious schools that date from the 16th century, and the wooden-pillared Bolo Hauz mosque all excite a sense of astonishment. They reflect the magical beauty that has made the very name of Bukhara a symbol of mystery and romance. But the history of Bukhara is also one of great cruelties, and they, too, echo through the dusty streets.

The most visible symbol of the harsh justice that was administered in Bukhara during past epochs is the



Registan square in Samarkand is a masterpiece of symmetry.

towering Kalon minaret, built in 1127 by a khan who wished to be called to prayer from the grandest minaret in the world. So it was, standing 155 feet (47 meters) tall and measuring 30 feet in diameter. For centuries it has been a symbol of religious faith, but it also had a grisly temporal use. On market days, condemned criminals would be led up its 105 steps, displayed to the mass below while their crimes were enumerated, then sewn into sacks and hurled to their deaths.

HARD TO FIND The Bug Pit was not easy to find: I had to locate the ancient jail, which lies outside the Ark complex behind a block of mud houses. There, an attendant silently led me to it.

One famous player of the Great Game, which was essentially a high-stakes diplomatic confrontation between Russia and Britain for control of 19th-century Central Asia, was Colonel Charles Stoddart, an archetypal adventurer who arrived in Bukhara in 1838 hoping to win the emir's sympathy for the British cause. The emir, a deranged sadist named Nasrullah, not only rejected his overtures but cast him into a filthy pit that was crawling with rodents and insects. He remained there for much of the next two years until the appearance of a fellow officer, Captain Arthur Conolly, whose recklessness may have been partly a result of depression at being jilted by his sweetheart. Conolly planned to win his comrade's freedom, placate the emir and then unite the

khanates of Bukhara, Khiva and Kokand under British influence. Things didn't work out quite that way, however, and Conolly was also thrown into the pit.

Both men remained there until a June morning in 1842, when they were led out to the square in front of the Ark. Both were executed before a cheering crowd; their remains, according to some accounts, still lie beneath the square.

No sign in Bukhara recounts this episode, but the Bug Pit may still be viewed. It is a crude hole beneath the jail, black and chilling.

The Uzbek capital of Tashkent, where most visitors begin their trips, is a not unpleasant city, spread out over a large area and laced with broad, tree-shaded avenues. It was devastated by an earthquake in 1966, and only scattered neighborhoods remain to show the old way of life. Today it reflects the contradictions of a poor country striving to enter the modern world. Contemporary stores and hotels stand among homes whose residents must scrape by on survival wages.

Probably the best-known destination in Uzbekistan is Samarkand, the capital of Tamerlane's empire. "Let he who doubts our power look upon our architecture," Tamerlane is said to have boasted. Today it is still possible to see much of what he meant. Standing in the Registan square and gazing at the turquoise domes and inlaid facades and minarets, one senses the power and majesty that this terrifying conqueror sought to convey.

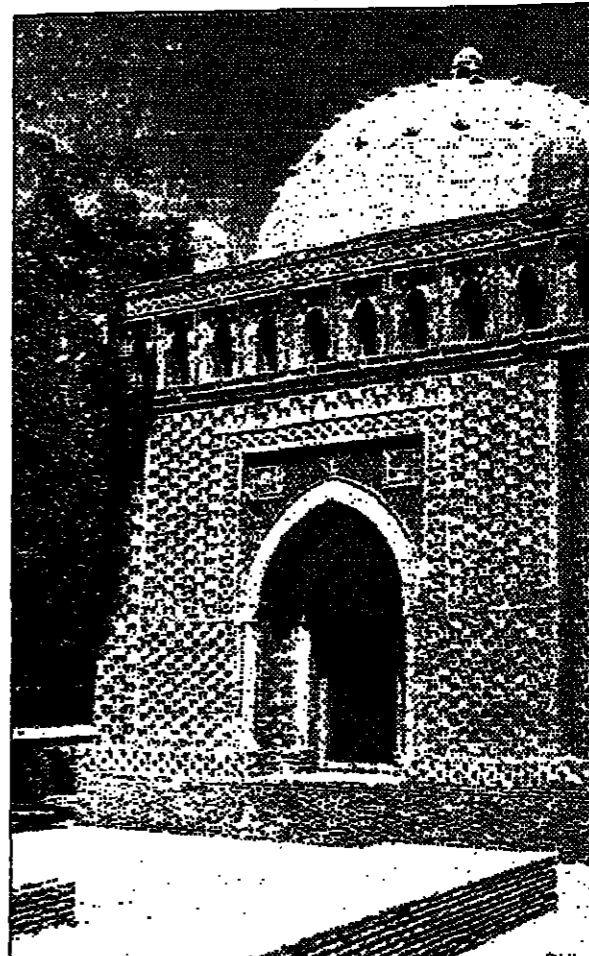
The gilded cupola over the magnificent mausoleum where Tamerlane is buried beneath one of the world's largest slabs of jade makes an ideological and political point as well as an architectural one. But on the outskirts of Samarkand I learned about another great figure from the city's past whose life reflects very different ideals. He was Ulug Beg, a 15th-century humanist who became a pioneer in mathematics, medicine and astronomy as well as a historian, poet and composer. A grandson of Tamerlane, he built one of the world's first sophisticated observatories and from it plotted more than 1,000 stars. "Religions dissipate like fog, kingdoms vanish, but the works of scientists remain for eternity," he proclaimed.

Such sentiments were not appreciated by obscurantists at the royal court, and at the age of 54, Ulug Beg was seized and beheaded. His observatory, denounced as a font of evil, was demolished. Its location was rediscovered in 1908, however, and his 36-foot-long arched sextant was unearthed. A copy of the observatory has been built around it and is open to the public. This building, like too much of Samarkand and other ancient Uzbek towns that are now tourist attractions, is essentially a fake, but it does make clear that consigning foreign designers to the Bug Pit was not the only thing this land's past leaders did to amuse themselves.

AFTER Bukhara and Samarkand, the other great destination in Uzbekistan is Khiva. Always among the most remote of Silk Road outposts, it is a full-day car ride across the western desert from Bukhara and thus less visited. The trip is well worthwhile. Khiva is a city with just 40,000 inhabitants, and its core is an open-air museum, more intact than either Samarkand or Bukhara. It is a maze of mosques, palaces, religious schools and homes, most of them enclosed within an area less than one mile square.

I was most impressed by the Tash Hauz palace, built in the 19th century as a residence for the emir, his entourage and harem, and now a museum. The first architect assigned to build it ventured to protest that its 163 rooms and three courtyards could not be completed in the assigned three years. For his impudence he was promptly impaled; nonetheless construction took eight years, even with the labor of 1,000 slaves.

The palace displays some of the world's most impressive ensembles of ceramic tiles, together with colorfully carved wooden walls and ceilings. In one courtyard stands the platform where



The Ismael Samani mausoleum in Bukhara, an arc-

the emir received petitioners, facing a large circular stone on which his tent was erected during winter months.

Several hours by car from Khiva, but also reachable by plane from Tashkent, is the remote town of Nukus, capital of an autonomous region called Karakalpakstan.

Nukus, a city of 180,000, is distinguished chiefly by two impressive institutions, both run by determined women who have devoted their lives to fighting all manner of obstacles in order to raise the region's cultural level. One is an art museum with an astonishingly rich collection of Karakalpak crafts and also Russian art, most of the latter from the avant-garde of the early 20th century. The paintings include evocative oils by Robert Rafailovich Falk, geometric figure studies by Liubov Popova and colorful gouache and aquarelle impressions of local life by Viktor Ufimtsev.

The other, not far from the museum, is one of Central Asia's most remarkable schools, the Progress Center, where local children and adolescents are taught English and business skills in an effort to give them and Karakalpakstan a chance to join the modern world.

At the other end of Uzbekistan is the Ferghana Valley, the most densely populated region of Central Asia. It is an ideal jumping-off point for treks through the pristine mountains of adjacent

Kyrgyzstan, an own right. Glaz colored silk fab famous product

There is enou visitors a rich lo local crafts are: see them depart

is a flowing ro richly embroidered together with which I bought operative collec ment Center. W imagine suppli selves at my fee cast them into it

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Life Among the Scenic Wonders, Where the Qings Beat the I

By Richard Tomlinson

CHENGDE, China—Spring has reached Beijing, bringing the year's first crop of foreign tourists in search of a 5,000-year-old civilization. As they trudge from one site to the next, do their spirits sag?

The Summer Palace—burned to a cinder by the British and French in 1860; the Forbidden City—ransacked by the defeated Nationalists in 1949; the Great Wall at Badaling—comprehensively rebuilt by the Communists in the late 1950s. If the tour guides were honest, they'd admit that whole chunks of Beijing's heritage are missing.

Not far from the capital, however, is a small town that has retained far more of the past than most Chinese cities. Chengde—formerly known as Jehol or Rehe—is where the Qing emperor Kangxi began to build his "Escaping the Summer Heat Mountain Villa" in 1703.

COOL IN THE MOUNTAINS

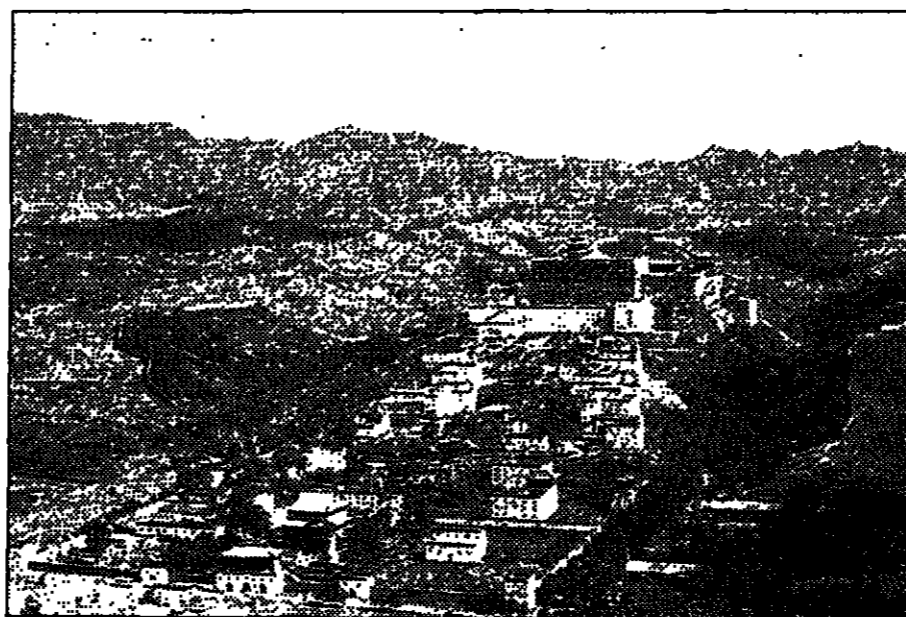
Each year the emperor and his successors returned to their cool resort, set in the hills of Hebei Province about 150 miles northeast of Beijing. To enhance the view from his villa, Kangxi decreed that the surrounding parkland should be dotted with 36 "scenic wonders"; not to be outdone, his grandson, Emperor Qianlong, decided to double the number. That makes 72 potential reasons (plus the villa) to take the fast train to Chengde, which leaves Beijing each morning at 7:30.

"Fast" is actually a misnomer. The train never gets above 35 miles (55 kilometers) per hour, which leaves plenty of time to admire the landscape. Gradually, the drab, featureless plain to the north of Beijing gives way to steep ravines and stark, arid hills—the same range from which the Manchurian warriors descended in 1644 to seize the capital, overthrow the last Ming emperor, and found the Qing dynasty.

Passengers who book soft-seat class (about \$6 for a one-way ticket) have the bonus of a catering service that captures the transitional essence of China's "socialist market" economy. Coffee, the woman attendant firmly explains, is only available at the appointed time, from her appointed colleague. But when the coffee finally arrives, it's hot, tastes of coffee, and comes with a smile—a triple success for the Railway Ministry's central planning department.

On arrival in Chengde, the first task is to find a hotel. From spring onward, the best bet is the Yiwanton, just inside the grounds of the old royal park, with a classical Chinese rock garden at the front. Unfortunately, the hotel closes in winter because it lacks central heating. In which case, head for the Yunshan, billed rather ominously as "one of China's first three-star hotels."

The Yunshan is actually much better than its publicity suggests, with clean rooms, hot water and an in-house attraction—Ding Fulin, the resident



Chengde's most famous fake: a replica of the Potala Palace in Lhasa.

painter, who hangs out in the hotel shop.

IN RESIDENCE Ding is no artist in retreat. A brass plaque announces that he is a "VIP of the World," and if one lingers too long by his counter he obligingly activates his ready-to-roll promotional video. There's no need to form a critical assessment of Ding's oeuvre; he's happy to deliver his own opinion.

By now, it's early afternoon—time enough to explore the royal buildings

and surrounding park before sundown. Having chosen the most literal name for his mountain villa, Emperor Kangxi seems to have exercised maximum poetic license with the constituent pavilions. On a crisp early spring day, for instance, the Hall of Refreshing Mists and Waves, is noticeably lacking in romantic vapor. But the ambience evidently inspired Kangxi, because it was here that he ordered the first of Chengde's 72 scenic wonders.

So where are they? The travel books quibble. O.K., it's true that Chengde suffers its own historical deficit problem. War, destruction and time have definitely reduced the scenic wonder quotient. But who can complain about a stately, 590-hectare (1,450-acre) park—the largest royal garden in China—which still offers such curiosities as the Moonlit River Hall, the Zigzag Path and the Cloudy Causeway. And if one tires of scenic wonders, there's a scattering of natural marvels in the surrounding hills, with the eye inevitably drawn to the so-called Peak Like an Inverted Washing Club. Sadly, the Shortest River in the World proves too short to locate.

Having worked up an appetite, one could head for Chengde's main thoroughfare to eat some street food. Or, then again, not. Chengde is famous for its wild game (think sparrow kebabs), but vendors win no prizes for their hygiene standards.

Downtown Chengde is worth a visit, though, if only to sample a pungent blast of modern Chinese street life. Sidewalk booksellers flog everything from the speeches of Chairman Mao to lurid "real life" crime magazines. Nearby, hawkers sell rip-off "Qididas" and "Nike" sports accessories.

And if one doesn't want to play safe and eat at the hotel, there's always the Tianwaitian (literally, Outside Heaven) restaurant. It's Chengde's best stab at an international establishment, with clocks keeping track of London, Paris and New York time, and a miniature

United Nations flag Extras include chea and helpful waitres

Next morning, cl Chengde's most fan of Tibetan Bud shrine, the Potala Chengde's "Potala tuozongsheng Tem sioned by Emper posedly to demons the Qing dynasty as

Today, it's simply more bizarre arc perched in mock sp hill beyond the wall monks perform d Potala's sacred inner bored Chinese guide to keep themselves v

IN the men's v another surpris reindeer, which visitors as they go ab The reindeer, it sho typical of Chengde coring locals.

But after a mornu definitely time to le holds no further secr train to Beijing at 2: served two hours a later.

Yunwanlou Hotel: 223-528.

Yunshan Hotel: (0 Tianwaitian Res 203-7566.

Richard Tomlinso based journalist.



DINING

Il Cortile: A Taste of Italy in the Middle of Pa

By Patricia Wells
International Herald Tribune

PARIS—Despite a universal love affair with Italian cuisine, the very gastronomic Paris remains a wasteland for authentic pastas, breads, risottos and traditional Italian grilled fare. Leave it to Alain Ducasse, Michelin's new six-star chef and lover of all things Mediterranean, to bail us out here.

As consultant to the newly anointed one-star Il Cortile (in the Hotel Castille on Rue Cambon), Ducasse has come up with a winning formula. With the French chef Nicholas Vernier at the stove, the two are mixing up some very delicious "I'll come back for more" Italian fare.

The good news is that they stay clear of those boring 10 greatest hits of Italian cuisine. Rather, the menu is based on inventive, fresh

and seasonal fare. Every few months the menu changes and showcases a seasonal ingredient—artichokes, broccoli and scallops were some of the most recent.

My only regret is that the breads are so delicious you are likely to fill up on them, leaving room for little else. Seconds after you are seated in the tastefully decorated dining room, you are showered with a selection of hot-from-the-oven delights such as an oil-brushed rosemary flat bread, crisp and crunchy; nicely risen little squares of focaccia, and firm, fresh grissini wrapped in prosciutto.

FIRST BITES Each menu includes an antipasto platter, at least eight little bites that might include a deeply salty *pissaladiere*, paper-thin slices of raw fennel bathed in a *romano* sauce; sardines marinated with citrus and capers, or a Swiss chard *tourne*.

Pasta and rice selections might include an

unusual risotto flavored with a trio of tomato flavors—slow-roasted, pan-fried and fresh-chopped; a ravioli filled with ricotta, sage and ham, or a classic fettuccine with pistou and aged Parmigiano Reggiano.

On one visit, the main course swordfish arrived perfectly, evenly cooked and so moist, with a glossy, stock-based sauce so shiny you could almost see your reflection, a sign of true professionalism. Here, vegetables are treated with equal respect as fish and meat, and the swordfish that day was paired with artichokes, potatoes, mushrooms, apple and onion, all tasting solely of themselves.

Equally triumphant is the evenly, perfectly grilled guinea hen, roasted on a spit and accompanied by full-flavored *caillottes* of guinea hen liver and gizzard and heart, wrapped in cauli fat and pan-fried. The accompanying polenta was a model of its genre, steaming, flavorful, smooth and rich.

But on one evening, artichokes and shrimp pr without character, and the was less than astonishing, a bit too tough to enjoy.

Service is impeccable cret and the wine list a jo chilled, easy-drinking Gimignano, a distinctive wine from the village non 140 francs (\$23.50) a bot

In the summertime, Il C city's loveliest outdoor g dining. But don't wait unt to give the spot a try.

Il Cortile (Hotel Castille Paris 1; tel: 01-44-58-45 97-64. Closed Saturday on credit cards. A la carte, 22 person, including service

21 Banks In Japan Ask for Aid

But Analysts Say Bailout
Fails to Solve Problems

By Sheryl WuDunn
New York Times Service

TOKYO — In a smoothly scripted bailout of the financial system, 21 of the nation's top banks submitted applications Thursday for public funds in a move the government hoped would ultimately bring back worldwide confidence in Japanese banks.

However, their requests for 2.1 trillion yen (\$16.73 billion) in rescue funds fell far short of the total 13 trillion yen on offer.

"The whole scheme seems to be more of a political maneuver to boost sentiment rather than an earnest effort to improve the banking system," said James Fiorello, banking analyst at ING Barings Securities (Japan) Ltd. "As far as the economy, it looks like we have taken a step backward. How can you conclude any other way?"

In addition, the script was interrupted by a discordant note: the arrest Thursday of two Finance Ministry officials for accepting bribes in the form of entertainment from bankers and brokers. It was the second time in just over a month that Finance Ministry officials had been arrested for taking bribes, and the arrests underscored the regulatory weaknesses that have contributed to a lack of international confidence in Japanese banks.

Finance Minister Hikaru Matsunaga apologized for "the incident which shook public trust," but said he would not resign.

As part of a \$238 billion bank bailout plan, the government is spending money to buy preferred shares or subordinated debt of the banks to increase their capital strength, stabilize the financial system and help ease a credit squeeze here by encouraging more bank lending.

Analysts say, however, that while the bailout injects capital into the banks, it

See BAILOUT, Page 17



Demonstrators marching in the northern city of Oldenburg on Thursday to protest against unemployment.

German Unemployment Spurs Protests

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BERLIN — Thousands of Germany's jobless rallied nationwide Thursday as the government reported a jobless rate of 12.6 percent in February, with 4.8 million people out of work.

This jobless rate, calculated without adjustment for seasonal factors, was unchanged from the rate for January even though an adjusted calculation showed that the total number of job seekers had declined by 17,000.

The unadjusted total for February was 4.819 million, signaling that unemployment remains near a record high. The figure for January showed a record of 4.823 million.

Convincing voters he can combat record unemployment will be at the top of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's agenda as he campaigns for re-election in September.

The Social Democratic Party's nominee to challenge Mr. Kohl, Gerhard Schröder, leads in opinion polls after

taking his party Sunday to its best showing ever in elections in the state of Lower Saxony, where he is prime minister.

Picketing and chanting outside unemployment offices from Berlin in the north to Munich in the south, protesters — though modest in number — sent a clear message to Mr. Kohl and Mr. Schröder as they begin to campaign.

"For now the unemployment issue is definitely benefiting the opposition," said Peter Meister, an economist at BHP-Bank AG in Frankfurt.

Mr. Kohl's failure to push through 30 billion Deutsche marks (\$16.5 billion) in tax cuts last year, which would have reduced corporate and income taxes, has hurt his chances of cutting joblessness and spurring growth before September. He also backed down on his promise to halve joblessness by 2000.

"The turn of the tide will be reached by late summer," said Manfred Kurze, an economist at Bayerische Landesbank

Girozentrale in Munich. "Productivity is extremely high, so we need 3.0 percent or 3.5 percent growth to reduce unemployment."

The government forecasts growth between 2.5 percent and 3 percent for this year.

As they have done for months, the unemployment numbers showed a strong discrepancy between unemployment in the eastern and western parts of the country, a product of German unification in 1990.

The unadjusted jobless rate in the west fell to 10.4 percent from 10.5 percent in January, but in the east it rose to 21.3 percent from 21.1 percent.

Bernhard Jagoda, president of Germany's Labor Office, said the west was benefiting from export-led growth while the east was struggling to get out of a construction sector slump.

"We can't talk of turnaround yet, so I hope that in March the improvement will be even more noticeable," Mr. Jagoda said. "The economy is still divided."

See JOBS, Page 17

Thinking Ahead / Commentary

Hey, Germany, Cut Italy Some Slack

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — "What's your problem?" That blunt question is often asked by Americans, with varying degrees of exasperation, when someone is being unnecessarily tiresome or making a mountain out of a molehill.

Now, with decision-time fast approaching on the European single currency, the euro, it is the question that Italians ought to be asking their German neighbors. The Italians are entitled to feel irritated.

Over the last few years, Italy has dramatically transformed its economy so as to qualify for euro membership. It has cut inflation, public spending and budget deficits to an extent that few people thought even remotely possible.

No matter. Large numbers of influential Germans still oppose Italy's participation on the grounds that the lira's inclusion would make the euro too weak to be an acceptable substitute for the mighty Deutsche mark.

Essentially, the German doubters are saying, "Yes, we know that you have done a lot to put your economic house in order, but, based on your past record, we can't trust you to keep it up after you join the euro."

Fortunately, such objections will almost certainly not be enough to keep Italy from being accepted among the 11 countries that are expected to launch the currency at a European Union summit meeting May 2 in Brussels.

Economic considerations aside, Italy, as a founder member of the six-nation European Community and one of the



Nicholas Adams

most consistently enthusiastic supporters of European integration, has impeccable political credentials for joining Europe's new inner circle.

But the German complaints are unfair — especially when Germany, with its rigid economy and high unemployment, is currently a prime candidate for the title of sick man of Europe — and they are damaging to future confidence in Italy and in the euro itself.

The truth is that Germany's supercilious attitude toward Italy is based as much on psychology as on economics, and probably says more about Germany than it does about Italy.

Germans are feeling put upon. Having paid exorbitantly for their country's unification, they see further huge bills coming due as the European Union expands into Central and Eastern Europe and seeks to extend its influence in the Mediterranean. Now, they are being asked to merge their beloved Deutsche mark with a currency that requires large numbers of zeroes at the end for even

modest transactions and has been notoriously unstable in the past.

Germans, however, know Italy mainly as a vacation destination. They are far too ready to swallow the caricature of Italy as a land of charming, unpunctual, opera-singing good-for-nothings — in much the same way that East Coast Americans dismiss California as la-la land.

In fact, by some measures, Italy is now as rich a country as Germany and France. It has a problem of sky-high public debt, but otherwise it easily fulfills the criteria for the single currency enshrined in the Maastricht treaty.

It has privatized and deregulated its economy and modernized health and pension programs. Italian businesses, workers, labor unions and consumers have become accustomed, and attached, to low inflation.

The irresponsible image of Italy dates from a spendthrift period that ended a dozen years ago when it started to get serious about convergence with its EU partners. Since then Italy has been progressively restoring discipline and responsibility to its economy. Unlike Germany, it has even succeeded in deregulating shopping hours.

Of course there are legitimate questions about whether Italy's good behavior can be maintained. But the answers should be weighed in the light of Italy's record over the last 12 years, not the 12 years that preceded them. It will not help Italy to sustain its reforms if its credibility is constantly being undermined by sniping from neighbors who seem unable to distinguish other people's problems from their own.

Thinkahead@washpost.com

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

March 5									
Cross Rates	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5
Australia	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Canada	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
France	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Germany	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Italy	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Japan	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
UK	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Switzerland	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Other Dollar Values	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5
Argentina	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Belgium	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Canada	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
France	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Germany	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Italy	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Japan	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
UK	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Switzerland	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Forward Rates	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5	March 5
30-day	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
60-day	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
90-day	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
180-day	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
360-day	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

PARIBAS SHAREHOLDERS

Net income up 51% to FRF 6.6 billion

Breakdown of pre-tax income

in FRF million	1996	1997	return on equity
Investment Banking	5,746	6,301	20%
Asset Management	530	988	30%
Retail Financial Services	(901)	2,277	25%
Income before tax, amortization of goodwill and provision for Asia	5,893	10,561	19%
Net income excluding minority interests and discontinued activities	3,091	5,208	
Net income excluding minority interests	4,350	6,573	

Paribas has taken a general provision of FRF 1.9 billion against potential risks related to the Asian monetary crisis (equal to 11% of the risk base).

1997 was the year of the constitution of a new Paribas

Paribas has now completed its strategic refocusing onto its specialized international banking activities.

Plans to merge Banque Paribas, Compagnie Financière de Paribas, Compagnie Bancaire and Compagnie de Navigation Mixte will be submitted to the approval of the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting.

Paribas, a unified bank active in high-growth markets, will be organized around three core businesses: Investment Banking, Asset Management and Retail Financial Services.

The income posted by each core business has progressed

Investment Banking: this business includes the Capital Market Activities, Corporate Banking, Advisory and Securities Services of Banque Paribas, as well as Paribas Affaires Industrielles: pre-tax income has risen by 10% thanks to increased customer revenues.

Paribas Affaires Industrielles continues to post substantially higher recurrent income. Unrealized capital gains have also increased.

Asset Management: this business consists of the Institutional and Private Asset Management activities, Cardif and Coral: pre-tax income has progressed by 86% thanks to the growth in assets under management.

Retail Financial Services: this business comprising the subsidiaries Arval, Banque Directe, Cetelem, UCB and UFB Locabail: pre-tax income has increased substantially thanks to the growth of operating activities and to the sustained development of international business.

Paribas, building on its strong European base, is pursuing a strategy of specialization and development targeted at high-growth markets and founded on technological innovation, an international presence, the sophistication of its products and the strength of its distribution potential.



PARIBAS INVESTOR RELATIONS
3, rue d'Antin, 75002 Paris - France - 33 1 42 88 66 35 - Internet: http://www.paribas.com

return on equity of
13%
The objective is to reach 15% by the year 2000.

*Calculated on the basis of net income excluding minority interests and discontinued activities.

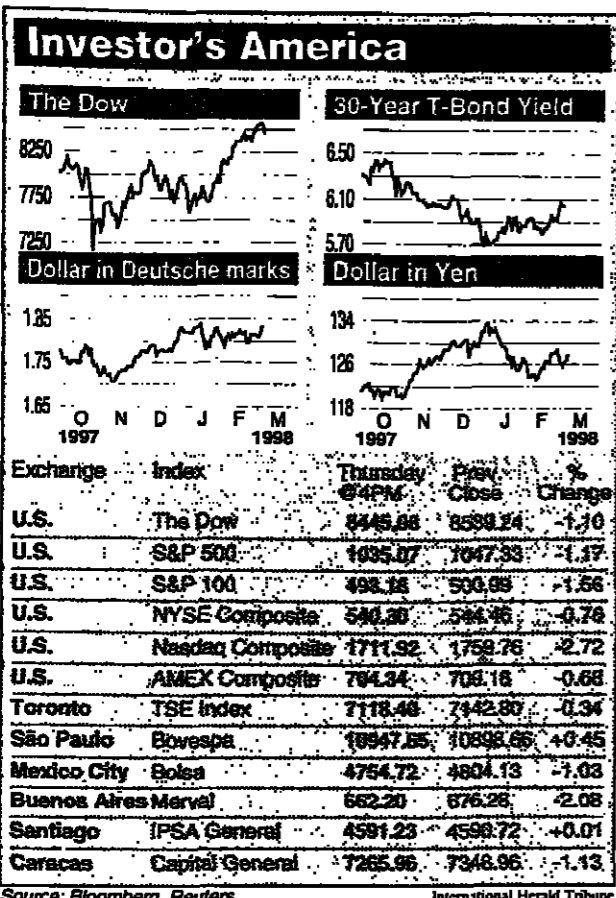
Cooke ratio for Tier one capital
8,6%
Strengthening of the bank's financial structure.

FRF 14
per share

An increased dividend will be recommended to the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on May 12, 1998.

Paribas,
the leading
euro bank.

THE AMERICAS



Very briefly:

- Campbell Soup Co. is negotiating to sell its European confectionery and distribution business, Continental Sweets, as part of its plan to jettison nonstrategic businesses.
- American Home Products Corp.'s board approved a two-for-one stock split to make its shares more affordable.
- Gerber Childrenswear Inc. plans a public stock offering as it seeks cash to build its children's clothing brand.
- Echlin Inc. is seeking to thwart a hostile takeover bid from SPX Corp. with a bill drafted by Connecticut state legislators that would raise the percentage of shareholder consent required to call a special meeting, to 50 percent from 35 percent.
- Peru said Coastal Corp. and Hunt Oil Co. would sign a contract to explore for oil in the country's northern jungle.
- J.P. Morgan & Co. is suing three South Korean clients, SK Securities Co., Housing & Commercial Bank and Advanced Investment Ltd., to try and recover more than \$300 million they owe the bank for losses on Asian currency derivatives.
- Xerox Corp. will buy XLConnect Solutions Inc. and its parent company, Intelligent Electronics Inc., for \$415 million in cash.
- U.S. applications for unemployment benefits fell to 304,000 for the last week in February, after a jump to 320,000 claims in the previous week.

400 NordicTrack Jobs Eliminated

ACTON, Massachusetts — The company that owns NordicTrack is cutting 400 jobs, or 14 percent of the work force, at the fitness equipment maker as it explores the possibility of selling the division, which has not had a profit since 1995.

CML Group Inc. disclosed Wednesday that the unit's manufacturing and distribution plant in Glencoe, Minnesota, where 287 employees work, would be closed by the end of August. The company has also dismissed 116 telemarketers in Minnesota.

Dollar Surges on Indication German Rates Might Drop

NEW YORK — The dollar gained sharply Thursday against other major currencies after comments from a Bundesbank council member that raised expectations German interest rates might decline.

Klaus-Dieter Kuehbachner said there was room for a decline in European interest rates before installation of the single currency, the euro — which is to go into effect at the start of next year.

The Bundesbank central council made no changes in key interest rates Thursday. That decision had been generally expected by economists, who say the central bank is unlikely to make changes before May, when the European Union members to take part in the first group of euro participants are to be designated.

Mr. Kuehbachner told a newspaper that he saw no reason for the Bundesbank to raise rates this year, adding that he would vote against an increase if it was based purely on monetary convergence needs. He further said that domestic German conditions might argue for a rate cut.

The dollar was quoted at 4 P.M. at 1.8348 Deutsche marks, up from 1.8185 DM on Thursday.

"The reference to a rate cut is new," said Keith Woodfin of Foreign Exchange Analytics, "and sparked an explosion in the market, as prior Bundesbank comments had hinted, at the most, for steady policy."

Dealers said they would watch for reaction by other Bundesbank officials, particularly President Hans Tietmeyer or the chief economist, Otmir Issing, to the comments from Mr. Kuehbachner, who is considered to be in the policy mainstream.

The dollar also rose to 127.45 yen from 126.67 yen, to 1.4930 Swiss francs from 1.4802 francs and to 6.1500 French francs from 6.1020 francs. The pound fell to \$1.6350 from \$1.6467. (Market News, AP)

INTEL: Results Chill Markets

Continued from Page 13

could make some pretty good estimates," he said.

But now, the Asian economies are weakening as the effects of the currency turmoil are felt. "The economic slowdown did not occur until this year, and now it is getting worse," he said. He said it was harder for stock analysts to quantify.

U.S. STOCKS

The outcome on corporate profits, but double-digit gains in the second half of the year seem questionable.

"We could have a good year for gross domestic products, but we're talking about corporate earnings, so it's not inconsistent," he said. External factors could affect earnings even as the U.S. economy expands.

There seemed to be little consensus on Wall Street about what investors should do with Intel.

Early in the day, brokerage firms issued statements about their outlooks for the stock: Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, Prudential Securities and Gruntal & Co. main-

tained "buy" recommendations; Hambrecht & Quist maintained a "hold," and Bear Stearns & Co. stayed "neutral."

BT Alex. Brown reduced its rating to "buy" from "strong buy," Nationsbank Montgomery Securities changed its recommendation to "hold" from "buy," and BancAmerica Robertson Stephens maintained its long-term "attractive" ranking.

Among other active Nasdaq technology issues, Microsoft Corp. and Oracle Corp. were lower, as were the networkers Cisco Systems Inc. and 3Com Corp.

Compaq led the New York Stock Exchange active issues, with a sharp fall, but Kmart followed, rising as retailers reported good February sales.

Also active on the Big Board was Waddell & Reed, which made its debut after the mutual-fund company sold 21.7 million shares on Wednesday at \$23 each. It was trading at about 27 on Thursday.

Bond prices fell, with the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond at 100 31/32, down 13/32. The yield was unchanged at 6.05 percent.

U.S. May Expand Microsoft Case

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department is strongly considering filing a broader antitrust case against Microsoft Corp. that would challenge Windows 98, its next-generation personal computer operating system, according to sources familiar with the case.

Justice is collecting evidence for a deeper assault on the software giant, one that likely would open one of the most contentious legal battles of the Clinton administration and could set policy toward the computer industry for years to come.

The core of the complaint, if it is filed, would be that Microsoft is using the dominant position of Windows to corner the market for Internet browser software, which is a central feature of the planned Windows 98 package.

Microsoft plans to start shipping Windows 98 in late spring. Justice officials would like to file a case before then.

United Orders 30 Jets From Europe's Airbus

CHICAGO — United Airlines has ordered 30 narrow-body aircraft from Airbus Industrie, the European aircraft consortium, in a deal worth about \$1.4 billion.

United, a unit of UAL Corp., said it had ordered 20 A320s and 10 A319s. Seven A320s are to be delivered in 2000; 13 A320s and 10 A319s are to be delivered in 2001.

Airbus said the A320 costs from \$46 million to \$49 million, and the A319 costs \$41 million to \$46 million.

When the newly ordered planes have entered service, United's fleet of Airbus narrow-bodies will total 111.

"They already have those airplanes, so it's just an add-on order," said Michael Boyd, head of the Boyd Group, an aviation consulting firm based in Evergreen, Colorado. "But what it means is that Boeing has fallen further from the fold."

United's chairman and chief executive, Gerald Greenwald, said the order represented the first phase of the company's strategy to "which is to grow our fleet size so that we can take advantage of profitable market opportunities."

He said that the company planned to add 68 aircraft to its passenger fleet, increasing the fleet to 639 aircraft by the end of 2001, from 571 last year.

A spokeswoman for Boeing Co. said the aircraft maker had expected the order and did not compete for it.

Industry analysts said the deal announced Wednesday suggested United intended to expand its capacity at a rate of around 3 percent a year, in line with previous expectations and the rest of the industry.

A spokeswoman for United declined to comment on the financing plan for the order.

UAL shares closed at \$83.125 down \$3, while Boeing slipped \$1.0625 to close at \$52.25. (Reuters, WP)

Computer Associates to Drop Takeover Attempt

Continued from Page 13

NEW YORK — Computer Sciences Corp. shares fell about 10 percent in late trading Thursday after Computer Associates International Inc. said it would let its \$108-per-share hostile bid expire March 16, a move traders said indicated the takeover battle was near dead.

Computer Sciences, in return, said Computer Associates should immediately terminate its offer for the company "to eliminate any uncertainty as to CA's intentions."

Charles Wang, the chairman of Computer Associates, in a letter to Van Housen, the chairman of Computer Sciences, said Computer Associates would have been willing to offer up to \$114 a share but that Computer Sciences refused to negotiate. Computer Associates made the letter public.

"We had hoped by putting these two companies together we could create the next generation of world-class information technology solutions provider. It would have been a dynamic combination," Mr. Wang wrote.

On Wednesday, Computer Sciences released aggressive profit forecasts in an attempt to show Wall Street that Computer Associates' offer for the company fell "way short" of what Computer Sciences considers its real market value.

Mr. Wang insisted that Computer Sciences' offer was "tremendously fair." Computer Sciences' share price dropped \$11.75 to \$93.25. Computer Associates shares rose \$1.5625 to close at \$49.125. (Reuters, WP)

AMEX

Thursday's 4 P.M. Close

The 300 most traded stocks of the day, up to the closing on Wall Street.

The Associated Press.

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
IBM	1,234,567	120.50	119.75	120.00	+0.25
Microsoft	987,654	55.25	54.75	55.00	+0.25
Oracle	765,432	45.50	45.00	45.25	+0.25
Compaq	654,321	35.75	35.25	35.50	+0.25
Kmart	543,210	25.00	24.50	24.75	+0.25
Waddell & Reed	432,109	23.00	22.50	22.75	+0.25
Gruntal & Co.	321,098	15.00	14.50	14.75	+0.25
Donaldson	210,987	12.00	11.50	11.75	+0.25
Lufkin & Jenrette	109,876	10.00	9.50	9.75	+0.25
Prudential	98,765	8.00	7.50	7.75	+0.25

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
IBM	1,234,567	120.50	119.75	120.00	+0.25
Microsoft	987,654	55.25	54.75	55.00	+0.25
Oracle	765,432	45.50	45.00	45.25	+0.25
Compaq	654,321	35.75	35.25	35.50	+0.25
Kmart	543,210	25.00	24.50	24.75	+0.25
Waddell & Reed	432,109	23.00	22.50	22.75	+0.25
Gruntal & Co.	321,098	15.00	14.50	14.75	+0.25
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Lufkin & Jenrette	109,876	10.00	9.50	9.75	+0.25
Prudential	98,765	8.00	7.50	7.75	+0.25

U.S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Today, March 5

Most Active

NYSE

Dow Jones

Standard & Poor's

NASDAQ

AMEX

Dow Jones Bond

Trading Activity

NYSE

NASDAQ

AMEX

Dow Jones Bond

Trading Activity

NYSE

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Strong Sales At All Units Fuel Profit At Daimler

FRANKFURT — Daimler-Benz AG, the biggest company in Germany, said Thursday its profit more than doubled last year because of strong sales in its car, truck and aerospace units.

Daimler-Benz's pretax profit rose to 4.2 billion Deutsche marks (\$2.31 billion) last year from 2 billion DM in 1996. The company said profit grew markedly in the second half, but it did not release figures for the period.

Daimler benefited from a boom in the European truck industry, which helped its truck division return to profit. Meanwhile, a stronger dollar lifted earnings at units such as Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG. The mark fell 17 percent against the dollar last year, increasing the value of overseas sales and making German products less expensive for foreign buyers.



IMMOBILE CALLER — A woman in London on Thursday passing a statue representing a trader with a mobile phone. Citing overcharging, the telephone-industry regulator, Ofel, ordered British mobile-phone companies to cut their prices.

Cost Savings Look Unlikely In German Bank Merger

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Bankgesellschaft Berlin AG on Thursday outlined the terms of its planned linkup with Norddeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale, but analysts were skeptical and said they could see little benefit in Germany's latest bank merger.

The two state-owned banks are to join forces to form a northern German counterweight to the banking group being created in the south, where Bayerische Vereinsbank AG and Bayerische Hypotheken- und Wechsel-Bank AG are merging.

Analysts said the Bankgesellschaft merger, which will create Germany's fourth-largest bank with assets exceeding 600 billion Deutsche marks (\$330 billion), looked far less promising because the scope for cost savings was severely limited.

Berlin-based Bankgesellschaft, 56 percent-owned by the state of Berlin, and Hannover-based NordLB have been cooperating since 1994 and announced last year they were planning to merge.

Under the terms of the deal agreed by the boards of the two banks, Bankgesellschaft will take over 10 percent of NordLB's capital in a transaction valuing NordLB at about 6 billion DM, the bank said.

It will pay NordLB's owners — three northern German states and regional savings bank associations — a noncash consideration of 12 million new shares in the merged bank plus 1.3 billion DM in cash.

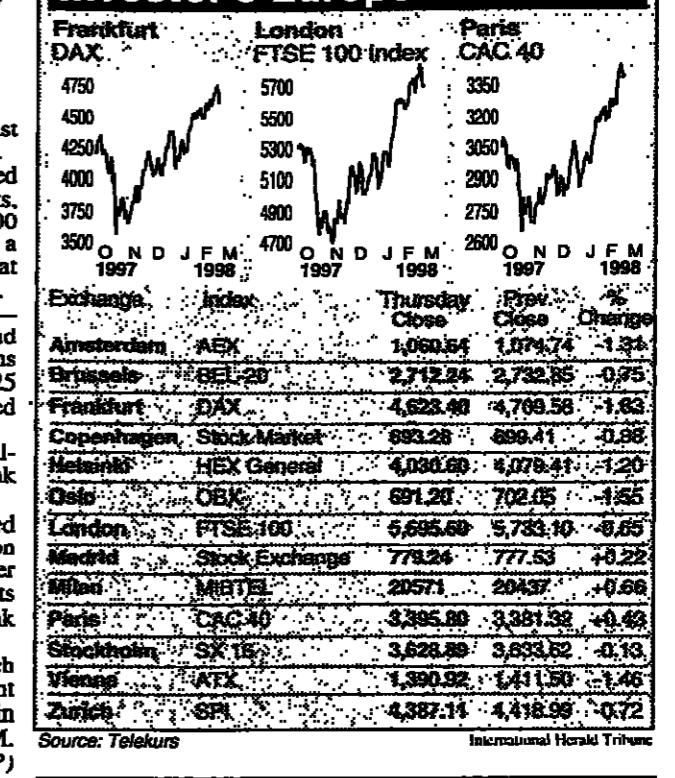
The deal will give Bankgesellschaft 60 percent of the merged bank and NordLB 40 percent.

Bankgesellschaft said it planned to pay the state of Berlin 1.5 billion DM. In return, it would no longer have to pay Berlin a share of profits earned by the group's Landesbank Berlin unit.

Bankgesellschaft's shares, which jumped as much as 10.6 percent after the news, closed Thursday in Frankfurt at 41.40 DM, up 3.60 DM from 37.80 DM.

(Reuters, AFP)

Investor's Europe



Very briefly:

- **Adidas AG's 1997 net profit** rose 48 percent to 465 million Deutsche marks (\$256 million) as sales at the German sports goods company climbed 42 percent to 6.7 billion DM. Adidas, which recently bought Salomon SA, a French sport-equipment maker, also plans to raise its dividend to 1.65 DM from 1.10.
- **BTR PLC's 1997 pretax profit** rose to £1.29 billion (\$2.1 billion) from £1.23 billion on sales of £7.44 billion. But the focus was on the British industrial conglomerate's earnings before exceptional items, which fell to £1.07 billion from £1.19 billion. The share price tumbled 6 percent to £1.855 after it warned that the strong pound and economic crises in South America and Asia would affect its business.
- **Pechiney SA returned** to a net profit of 1.81 billion French francs (\$297 million) last year from a loss of 2.98 billion francs in 1996, helped by gains from asset sales, a stronger dollar and higher aluminium prices. Sales grew 12 percent to 69.75 billion francs.
- **Enterprise Oil PLC's 1997 net income** fell 11 percent to £126.6 million from a year earlier as profit was hit by weak oil prices, by lower-than-expected output and by a strong pound.
- **The Czech government** has approved the purchase of a 36.7 percent stake in Investiční a Poštovní Banka AS by Nomura International of Japan, in a bid to bolster its ailing economy. The bank controls investment funds with lucrative holdings in Czech industry.
- **Ladbroke Group PLC's 1997 pretax profit** climbed 39 percent to £226.3 million from the previous year as revenue increased at the British leisure company's betting shops and as demand for rooms rose at its Hilton hotel chain.
- **Slovenia's two largest banks**, state-owned Nova Ljubljanska Banka and SKB Banka are considering a merger.
- **Zeneca Group PLC's pretax profit** rose 10.9 percent last year to £1.08 billion; but sales, hit by a strong pound, fell 3 percent to £5.19 billion.

Reuters, AFP, AFX, Bloomberg

Paris Cautioned About Sale Bias

Reuters

PARIS — European Competition Commissioner Karel van Miert warned Paris on Thursday not to favor French buyers in the privatizations of the troubled GAN insurance group and its banking unit, CIC.

"It has been agreed that the sale will be transparent and nondiscriminatory, which does not of course exclude a French solution," he said.

Mr. Van Miert also stepped up pressure on France to privatize Credit Lyonnais no later than 1999 through a "proper and transparent" process.

"We need a serious privatization and not a mixed platter with several core shareholders," he said.

Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn of France is under heavy pressure to keep French companies in French hands following an outcry over the takeover of the second-largest insurer in the country, AGF, by Germany's Allianz.

Jet-Engine Sales Lift Rolls-Royce's Profit

LONDON — Rolls-Royce PLC reported a sharp rise in annual profit Thursday and said strong sales of new engines were set to fuel double-digit growth in earnings this year.

Rolls said it achieved its highest-ever share of the civilian aircraft-engine market last year, winning 34 percent, in line with its aim of capturing a third of the world market. In 1996, its share was 20 percent. Pretax profit rose 17 percent last year from 1996, to £276 million (\$454.6 million), the company said. Sales rose

11 percent, to £4.33 billion.

Rolls said its order book at the end of the year stood at £8 billion, up £1 billion from the previous year. The company has recorded £2.1 billion of sales since December.

Rolls-Royce said sales were well balanced, with defense accounting for a third, civil aerospace half, and the industrial sector 20 percent.

The company said it "does not expect significant adverse impact from the short-term economic problems in Asia. The company has a strong order book and 90 percent of

orders announced for civil aero engines in 1997 came from Europe and North America."

Demand for new aircraft engine is expected to remain strong, with the civilian market expected to be worth \$420 billion over the next 20 years, Chief Executive John Rose said.

Any fears that the economic crisis in Asia might affect sales were misplaced, he said, since airlines still needed to replace jets and add new ones. "Between now and 2015 we would expect about 9,500 aircraft to be retired," he said. (*Reuters, AFP*)

Hanson Clears Its Decks and Gets Ready for Acquisitions

LONDON — Hanson PLC, reporting its first full-year results since dividing into four companies last year, said Thursday that the disposal of its remaining noncore businesses was "well under way," placing the former conglomerate in a position to make acquisitions to sharpen its focus on building materials.

"That is our priority for adding value for shareholders," said Justin Read, associate director in charge of investor relations.

Hanson reported pretax profit for 1997, excluding one-time items, of £224.7 million (370.1 million), which it said compared with £207.4 million in 1996.

Sales were £248 billion, down from a comparable figure of £256 billion in 1996.

Upon disposing of its remaining noncore assets, Mr. Read said Han-

son would be able to finance purchases from its own resources. Hanson ended 1997 with net debt of £217 million.

Hanson's three main remaining businesses are Hanson Brick Ltd., ARC Ltd., the No. 2 British aggregates producer, and Comerstone Construction & Materials Inc., the third largest U.S. aggregates producer.

Hanson shares finished down 1 pence at 322.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

[illegible]

The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

[illegible]

WALOUT: 21 Banks App

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...to date.
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...the problems
...banks
...need
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...starts that
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of those in the service was 100. On Wednesday, however, when public service workers on a Wednesday delayed military and left garbage men hoped to push the government to increase pay and benefits, teachers, garbage collectors demanded wages equal to those of western counterparts.

The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
In terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

[illegible]

Thursday's 4 P.M. Close
(Continued)

[illegible]

The date in box below is the year provided by the fund name or Minimal SA

This information is collected and retransmitted into the list before being transmitted to the IHT. Mopcal and the IHT do not warrant the quality or accuracy of the list; the data of the performance of funds of the Fund Groups will not be liable for the list, the data of the performance of funds of the Fund Groups will not be liable for the list, the data of the performance of funds of the Fund Groups will not be liable for the list.

Past performance does not guarantee future success. It is advisable to seek advice from a qualified independent advisor before investing.

SPORTS

led by Smith,
'6ers Defeat
Bucks, 87-80

The Associated Press

Joe Smith had his best game since being dealt to the 76ers and Derrick Coleman had 19 points and 10 rebounds as Philadelphia defeated the Milwaukee Bucks, 87-80.

Smith scored 15 points on 6-of-9 shooting with four rebounds in 26 minutes. Theo Ratliff added 13 points and seven rebounds for Philadelphia, which returned home Wednesday night for a four-game road trip.

Smith had not scored more than 14 points since being traded to Philadelphia two weeks ago. He had a 2-for-

NBA ROUNDUP

shooting night against Indiana and as 1-for-12 against Denver.

Glenn Robinson had 21 points and eight rebounds, Tyrone Hill grabbed 18 rebounds, Ray Allen scored 17 points and Armon Gilliam added 14 points, including 10 in the fourth quarter, as the Bucks lost their third in a row.

Hornets 112, Timberwolves 102 Charlotte extended its best winning streak of a season to six games as Anthony Mason scored nine of his 21 points in a fourth-quarter run that pushed the Hornets past visiting Minnesota.

Mason added seven rebounds and five assists as Charlotte improved its 11-game home record against the Timberwolves to 10-0.

Cavaliers 122, Raptors 88 Wesley Person tied a career high with 33 points and Cleveland reached a season-high point total in routing visiting Toronto.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 21 points and 7 rebounds, and Brevin Knight passed or 17 assists. Rookie Derek Anderson had 13 points in 17 minutes in his return from missing 15 games with a knee injury. The Cavs were 6-9 without their 3rd overall 1997 draft pick.

Magic 96, Sonics 83 Nick Anderson, back from a bout with the flu, scored 31



Ron Mercer of the Celtics driving through Jeff Hornacek, left, and Karl Malone of the Utah Jazz to score in a game that Boston lost, 110-94.

points to help host Orlando snap Seattle's five-game winning streak.

Anderson, averaging just under 28 points in his last six games, made 5 of 6 shots during a 32-point third quarter that enabled Orlando to break the game open.

Jazz 110, Celtics 94 In Boston, Karl Malone had 32 points and 15 rebounds and Utah overcame 36 points and 10 rebounds by Antoine Walker to beat the Celtics for the 13th consecutive time.

Lakers 104, Pacers 95 Shaquille O'Neal had 29 points, including a surprising 13-of-15 from the foul line, as

the Lakers won at home amid reports that their coach was about to be fired.

Kings 109, Pistons 89 Corliss Williamson scored a career-high 40 points as Sacramento ended its seven-game losing streak with a victory over visiting Detroit.

Warriors 90, Spurs 83 Golden State snapped four-game losing streak with a victory at home over San Antonio.

Jim Jackson led the Warriors with a season-high 26 points and Donyell Marshall and Erick Dampier had 17 apiece to help the Warriors beat the Spurs for the first time in three meetings this season.

Athletes and Rape: A Victim Reacts

By Robert Lipsyte
New York Times Service

KATHY Redmond's father sobbed as she left for college in late August 1991, in two cars loaded with stereo equipment, stuffed animals and lacrosse sticks.

It was the first time she had seen her dad actually cry, but she was not surprised. Kathy was the baby of the family and among its fourth generation to attend the University of Nebraska. At 50, Bill Redmond, a former Air Force officer, still wore his varsity letterman's ring, for baseball, on the same finger as his wedding band.

Kathy, at 18, felt she was moving from one family home to another. Her dad's picture hung in the sports center, her grandmother's Russian sandwiches were sold in the stadium. She knew many of the athletic trainers from attending games and alumni events. Nebraska was the only college to which she had applied.

But according to published reports, within two weeks of arriving in Lincoln, Kathy was raped by Christian Peter, a Nebraska football star now with the New York Giants of the National Football League.

It was two years before she reported the assault. Her lonely and painful journey eventually drew her family into a maelstrom of rage and self-questioning that has yet to run its course.

On Thursday, in an effort stimulated by the recent suicide of the girlfriend of

another Giants' player, Kathy Redmond was to announce the formation of the National Coalition Against Violent Athletes.

According to Jeffrey Benedict of Boston, a leading researcher in the field of violent athletes, in each of the past three years there have been an average of 100 formal criminal complaints of physical or sexual assault on women by professional and college athletes.

"There's better reporting on the incidents," Benedict said Wednesday, "but I think there are also more incidents in recent years."

While the news media have increased coverage of athletes' transgressions in recent years, the emphasis has usually been on how a rape or assault will affect the athlete's season rather than on how it will affect the life of the victim and her family.

Redmond, 24, who has a degree in broadcasting and a public relations job in Denver, hopes to turn attention to the casualties of what sometimes seems like a jock war on women.

By sports standards, the coalition, which seems housed in Redmond's blue backpack, is not even minor league. The late-afternoon news conference on Thursday was scheduled for the YWCA on Lexington Avenue. There are no corporate sponsors, no teams of therapists.

Redmond's own case history is not available to her. As a condition of the out-of-court settlement with Peter and the University of Nebraska, Redmond and her family may not discuss the incident.

But Benedict's book, "Public Heroes, Private Felons" (Northeastern University Press), an examination of athletes and crimes against women, goes into some detail. According to the 1997 book, Peter raped Redmond twice, several nights apart, once in his dormitory room and once in hers. She did not report the rapes for two years, until other women had come forward with accusations against Peter.

In a recent interview, Redmond spoke freely about her own feelings of shame and isolation.

"I know I changed," she said. "I wasn't bubbly anymore. I was depressed. I tried to focus on schoolwork and get out quickly. Lacrosse saved my life. It was my emotional release; I could work out my anger on the field."

She eventually told her sisters about the rape, who told her mother, who kept it from her father for months. When Bill Redmond found out, he pulled off his varsity ring, never to wear it again.

Sharon Redmond said, "Something like this totally immerses and devastates an entire family."

Kathy Redmond searches for positives in the experience.

"My mom and I got really close, and I think my dad saw character in me he never saw before," she said.

She was angry when she learned that Peter had signed with the Giants last season.

"He got his dreams," she said, "but he took so much of my life and time away."

Nagano Brawl May Cost U.S. Team

By Bill Brubaker
Washington Post Service

The head of the U.S. Olympic delegation at the recent Nagano Games said he would "seriously consider" recommending to the U.S. Olympic Committee that it impose a "teamwide sanction" on the men's hockey team in the wake of a Feb. 19 incident in which an unknown number of players trashed three apartments in the Olympic Village.

Paul George, the U.S. chief of mission, said the sanction — which could include banning all 23 players from future Olympic Games and a White House visit in April with other Olympians — would come as a result of the failure by any of the 23 team members to take responsibility for the destruction during interviews with National

Hockey League investigators. "It's not something one wishes to do," George said. But he said that "if no one comes forward, if no one has the courage to 'fess up' — and they haven't yet" — then there is some basis to discipline on a teamwide basis.

"It's not unlike what a principal might do at a school," he said. "If no one in the class will 'fess up' to breaking a window, then perhaps the whole class gets detention."

George said he was troubled that in interviews with NHL investigators no player was willing to identify teammates who were involved.

"We remain hopeful," George said, "that someone on the team will have the courage and the decency to come forward to take the heat off the entire team, not only the entire hockey team but the entire Olympic team. But that hasn't

happened." The incident occurred between 2:30 and 4 A.M. after the U.S. team, composed entirely of NHL players, was eliminated by the Czech Republic.

Ten chairs were broken, four walls and a door were damaged, and a fire extinguisher was thrown from a fifth-floor apartment into a courtyard.

Within hours after the incident, Gary Bettman, NHL commissioner, announced that the league's security department would lead an investigation to determine which athletes were responsible.

However, in recent days, the NHL security staff completed its interviews with members of the Olympic hockey delegation without determining who was involved in the incident, according to George and another official close to the U.S. Olympic team.

Avalanche Sweep Past the Maple Leafs, 5-3

The Associated Press

Keith Jones, back from a serious knee injury, scored a goal and added two assists as the Colorado Avalanche defeated the Toronto Maple Leafs, 5-3.

Jones, playing in just his fourth game since tearing the anterior cru-

NHL ROUNDUP

ciate ligament in his left knee in the playoffs last year, scored his first goal since April 13, 1997.

The host Leafs had trouble containing the Avalanche during the entire game Wednesday, with Jones

scoring the winning goal at 3:52 of the final period on a scramble after he retrieved his dropped stick.

Peter Forsberg added two assists, giving him a total of 52, to take over the scoring lead in the National Hockey League with 73 points.

Rangers 4, Panthers 3 In Miami, Wayne Gretzky had two power-play goals and an assist to lift the Rangers and extend Florida's losing streak to six games.

Canadians 3, Stars 1 In Dallas, Andy Moog frustrated his former teammates by making 24 saves as the Canadiens ended the Stars' six-game unbeaten streak. Moog registered his

370th career victory as Montreal ended a four-game losing streak.

Oilers 4, Lightning 2 The host Oilers won their third straight, holding off a late charge by the Lightning.

Doug Weight, Scott Fraser, Roman Hamrlik and Dean McAmmond scored for the Oilers. Stephane Richer scored both goals for the Lightning on power plays.

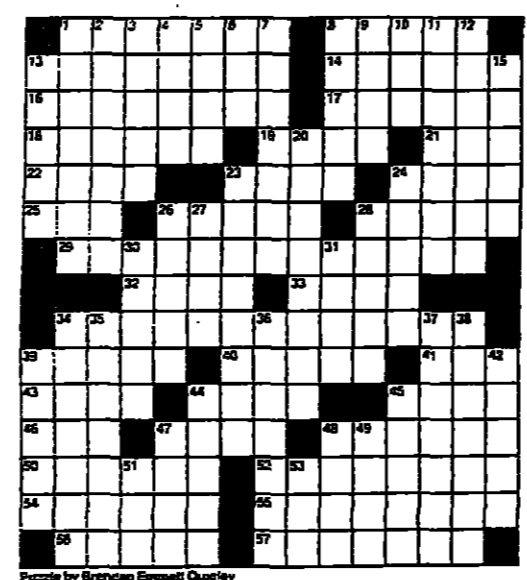
Red Wings 2, Mighty Ducks 0 In Anaheim, Kevin Hodson earned his third career shutout with 35 saves and Brent Gilchrist scored a power-play goal.

Steve Yzerman added his 14th goal on a 2-on-1 break with 4:11 remaining.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Frowned-up
conduct
4 A chorus line
7 "Praise be!"
8 Arm wrestler's
pride
9 Parking lot
prankster,
perhaps
10 Poro —
Brazil
11 Singer Bobby
and others
12 Container
weight
13 Bourbon ruler
14 Popular college
items of the 20's

23 Hampers
24 First-rate
25 One on foot
26 90's singer
Apple
28 Engine noise
29 Three-time Best
Actor nominee
30 Dearth
31 Mediator
32 Sneaky sales
tactic
33 What
routabouts put
up
34 One of Oxford's
colleges
41 Ad —
42 The gamut



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Solution to Puzzle of March 5

ACROSS
1 FROWNED-UP
CONDUCT
4 CHORUS LINE
7 PRAISE BE!
8 ARM WRESTLER'S
PRIDE
9 PARKING LOT
PRANKSTER,
PERHAPS
10 PORO —
BRAZIL
11 SINGER BOBBY
AND OTHERS
12 CONTAINER
WEIGHT
13 BOURBON RULER
14 POPULAR COLLEGE
ITEMS OF THE 20'S

DOWN

1 LESS HOPEFUL
2 LA TRAVATA
3 SUB STATIONS
4 CRÊME CARAMEL
5 DOUBLE PLAY
6 CITY ON
GUANABARA BAY
7 BOND ORDER
8 THEY'LL GIVE YOU
A LIFT
9 TEE OFF
10 HOT SHOT
11 COMPACT'S LACK
12 GERMANE

DENNIS THE MENACE



PEANUTS



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



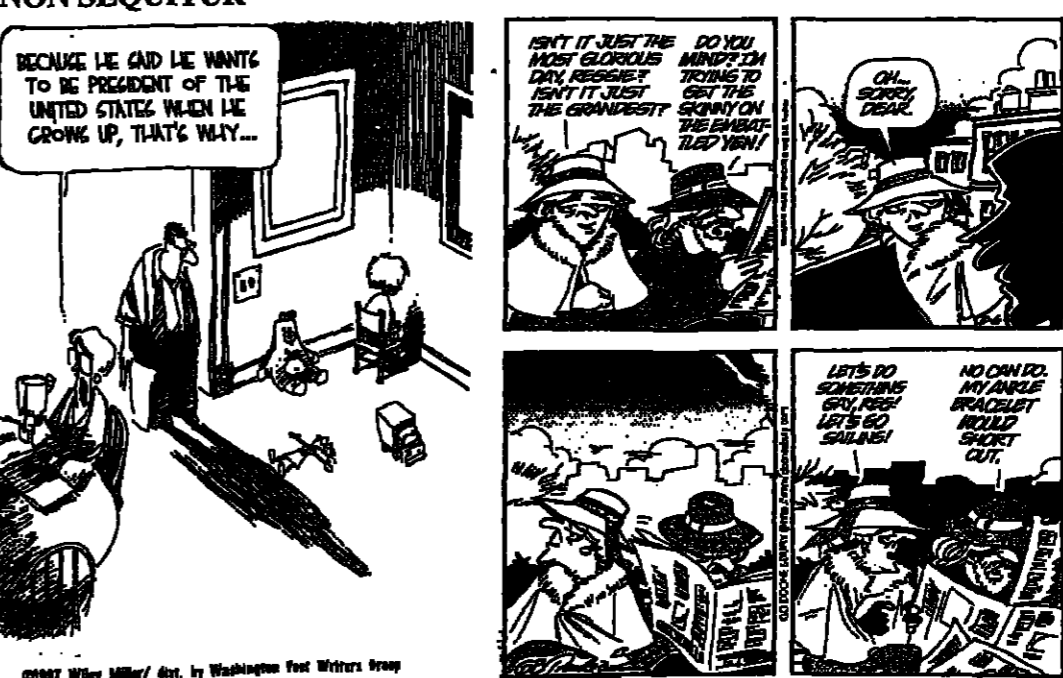
CALVIN AND HOBBS



WIZARD of ID



NON SEQUITUR



DOONESBURY



EUROSPORT
able on cable and satellite

Sex in Shanghai

Chinese culture has tolerated explicit and implicit depictions of sex over the centuries, as Liu easily demonstrates. A painting of a scholar with enlarged genitalia shows one side, while the discreetly seductive maiden drawn on the outside of an elegant teacup yields another.

And on Liu's shelves, there is more: ancient copper dildos, silver rings that ladies of the night wore on the tongue to accentuate a customer's pleasure, phallic sculptures that nur-

Liu, who taught sociology at Shanghai University until his retirement a few years ago, began collecting Chinese sexual artifacts a decade ago after the police asked him to inspect some confiscated materials they had deemed pornographic. Liu was fascinated by the ancient paintings and sexual paraphernalia, and was distressed when the police insisted on destroying many pieces with historical merit.

From the Former Material Girl, a New Tune

Madonna's recent moves — proudly becoming a single mother, expanding her career as president of her own label, Maverick Records, exchanging rock 'n' roll outrageousness for the vaunted re-



In songs flecked with phrases taken from proverbs and sacred texts, Madonna explores the terrain of the spiritual as she once investigated eroticism and social ambition. Once she borrowed sources and styles from gay drag queens and vintage Hollywood; now she mines Greek legends and "The Autobiography of Jane Fonda."

"You can't help being sad and lonely when you're going through self-examination," Madonna said. "Because, at the end of the day, you're going to be buried alone."

Jocelyn Wildenstein leaving the courthouse.



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Czech Republic	00-42-0-020	Israel	177-100-2727	Sweden	626-795-6111
Egypt (Cairo)	510-0200	Italy	172-011	Switzerland	0800-39-0011
France	0-800-99-0011	Netherlands	0800-022-9111	United Kingdom	0500-99-0011
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